

Proposals for the 2026 Congress

Modifications of the Organisation Rules

The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.

Proposal 1

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: o.3

Motivation: Though the cadet zonal championships are organised by the same organizer, jointly with the junior zonal championships, at the same period and place, with the same officials and referees, and sometimes with the same fencers, the cadet zonal championships are not included into the FIE rankings because they are not listed below. It is therefore proposed to add the word “cadet” in article o.3.

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 **cadet**, 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.

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour

Opinion of the PCM Commission: Agrees to the proposal.

Opinion of the Athletes Commission: The Commission agrees with this proposed amendment, which will promote the practice of fencing and enhance the competitive standard.

Opinion of the Coaches Council: In favour

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 2

Presented by: Rules Commission

Articles: o.3, o.42, o.55, o.60, o.89, o.108

Motivation : Introduction to Zonal Cadet as part of FIE 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 **cadet**, 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.

o.42

1. The Zonal Championships recognised by the FIE are the Senior Zonal Championships and the **Cadet and** Junior Zonal Championships. Other competitions may be organized by the Zonal Confederations (Veterans, U 23, ~~Cadet circuit~~, etc.).
2. The program of the Senior Zonal Championships comprises twelve events, six individual and six team —men's foil, women's foil, men's epee, women's epee, men's sabre and women's sabre.
3. The program of the **Cadet and** Junior Zonal Championships comprises ~~6~~ **12** individual events, and 6 team events — men's foil, women's foil, men's epee, women's epee, men's sabre and women's sabre.
4. The formulae of the competitions are specified in the rules and in the following articles: o.100, o.101 and o.102 (o.102.1 first sentence and o.102.2).
5. For Senior, **Cadet** and Junior Individual Zone Championships, at each weapon, the federations may enter up to four fencers. For Senior and Junior Team Zone Championships, at each weapon, each federation may enter 1 team (consisting of three fencers with or without a reserve).

o.55

The **forms** must be sent to all federations at the same time as the official invitation. The federations must indicate their **intention to participate** three months before the beginning of the Championships.

Entries for World Championships (all categories) and Zonal Senior, Cadet and Junior Championships

Zone Championship

o.60

For **Cadet**, junior and senior Individual Zone Championship competitions, at each weapon, the federations may enter up to 4 fencers.

For junior and senior Team Zone Championship competitions, at each weapon, the federations may enter 1 team (consisting of three fencers with or without a reserve).

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, **the Cadet and Junior World Cup competitions and Zonal Championships.**
~~The seeding rules for the Zonal Cadet Championships are established by the Zonal Confederations.~~

o.108**1 Principles**

- 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 **and Zonal Championships.**

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour with the modifications in **green**

o.42

1. The Zonal Championships recognised by the FIE are the **Cadet, Junior and Senior Zonal Championships** ~~and the Cadet and Junior Zonal Championships.~~ Other competitions may be organized by the Zonal Confederations (Veterans, U 23, ~~Cadet circuit,~~ etc.).

2. The program of the Senior Zonal Championships comprises twelve events, six individual and six team —men's foil, women's foil, men's epee, women's epee, men's sabre and women's sabre.
3. The program of the **Cadet and Junior** Zonal Championships comprises **6 12** individual events, and 6 team events — men's foil, women's foil, men's epee, women's epee, men's sabre and women's sabre.
4. The formulae of the competitions are specified in the rules and in the following articles: o.100, o.101 and o.102 (o.102.1 first sentence and o.102.2).
5. For **Cadet, Junior and Senior** ~~and Junior~~ Individual **Zoneal** Championships, at each weapon, the federations may enter up to four fencers. For **Junior and Senior** ~~and Junior~~ Team **Zoneal** Championships, at each weapon, each federation may enter 1 team (consisting of three fencers with or without a reserve).

o.55

The **forms** must be sent to all federations at the same time as the official invitation. The federations must indicate their **intention to participate** three months before the beginning of the Championships.

Entries for World Championships (all categories) and **Cadet, Junior and Senior Zonal ~~Senior, Cadet and Junior~~ Championships**

Zoneal Championship

o.60

For **Cadet, jJunior and sSenior** Individual **Zoneal** Championship competitions, at each weapon, the federations may enter up to 4 fencers.

For **jJunior and sSenior** Team **Zoneal** Championship competitions, at each weapon, the federations may enter 1 team (consisting of three fencers with or without a reserve).

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, the Cadet and Junior~~ World Cup competitions, **World Championships** and Zonal Championships. ~~The seeding rules for the Zonal Cadet Championships are established by the Zonal Confederations.~~

Opinion of the PCM Commission: Agrees to the proposal.

Opinion of the Athletes Commission: The Commission agrees with this proposed amendment, which will promote the practice of fencing and enhance the competitive standard.

Opinion of the Coaches Council: In favour

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Article o.3 has already been dealt with in proposal 1. Article o.89 will be dealt with proposal 12.

Article o.108 will be dealt with proposal 16.

The Executive Committee agrees with the other proposals as revised by the Rules Commission, but in the case of Article o.42.1, the entire parenthesis must be deleted as these are merely examples:

o.42

1. The Zonal Championships recognised by the FIE are the **Cadet, Junior and Senior Zonal Championships** ~~and the Junior Zonal Championships~~. Other competitions may be organized by the Zonal Confederations (~~Veterans, U 23, Cadet circuit, etc.~~).

Proposal 3

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: o.16

Motivation: The Event Managers of the FIE should be part of the Directoire technique in order to be consistent in the organisation of all senior competitions.

Nomination of the Directoire Technique

o.16

The **Directoire Technique** is composed of people **who have the experience and competence to organise competitions.**

2 World Cup and Grands Prix competitions.

a) For **Cadet and Junior World Cup competitions**, ~~The the~~ Directoire Technique is composed of three qualified persons from the country where the competition is held or invited by them. There must be at least one member from each gender.

b) For **senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions**, the Directoire Technique is composed of three qualified persons: two from the country where the competition is held or invited by them and one appointed by the FIE as President of the Directoire technique. There must be at least one member from each gender.

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour with the adding text in green.

Nomination of the Directoire Technique

o.16

The **Directoire Technique** is composed of people **who have the experience and competence to organise competitions.**

2 World Cup and Grands Prix competitions.

a) For Cadet and Junior World Cup competitions, ~~The~~ the Directoire Technique is composed of three (3) qualified persons from the country where the competition is held or invited by them. There must be at least one member from each gender.

b) For ~~s~~Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions, the Directoire Technique is composed of three (3) qualified persons: two (2) from the country where the competition is held or invited by them and one **Event Manager** appointed by the FIE as President of the Directoire Technique. There must be at least one member from each gender.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Rules Commission.

Proposal 4

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: o.22

Motivation: In order not to overlap the roles of Event Manager and Supervisor, the latter will be appointed in cadet and junior World Cups only.

Supervisor

o.22

- 1 The Organizing Committees of ~~Grands Prix, 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.
- 4 The Supervisor settles any other disputes that might arise in **Cadet and Junior World Cups.**
~~and Grand Prix.~~

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 5

Presented by: Rules Commission

Article: ~~o.22~~

Motivation: No supervisor in GP

~~o.22~~

- ~~1 The Organizing Committees of **Grands Prix**, 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~~

Opinion of the Rules Commission: The proposal was withdrawn, because Article o.22 was modified by Proposal 4, made by the Executive Committee

Proposal 6

Presented by: Rules Commission

Articles o.41, o.99, t.41, t.124

Motivation: We considered how to make team matches shorter and more dynamic, with increased suspense through greater individual responsibility for each fencer. The objective is to create a format that is more attractive for television and digital broadcasting, easier to understand for spectators, and overall more dynamic and spectacular in presentation.

The proposal consists of modifying the current team competition format by introducing a set-based system, according to the following rules:

Each match would be contested as a best-of-three sets (two sets required to win).

Each set would be fenced to 15 touches using the relay format (5–10–15).

The team that wins two sets wins the match.

If each team wins one set, a decisive third set would be fenced to 15 touches.

Each set would have a time limit of 6 minutes (3 periods of 3 minutes).

Each team would consist of three fencers, with one optional substitute.

Each set would be fenced independently, with the score reset to 0–0 at the start of each set.

Touches would not carry over from one set to another.

Each coach would have one 30-second time-out available per match.

o.41

2 Principles

- c) The matches proceed according to the **2 winning sets team-relay formula**, as provided for in Article o.99 of these Rules.

o.99

The **formula** for the competition is as follows.

- 1 The **relay formula 2 winning sets** applies to all weapons.
- 2 The three fencers of one team fence the three fencers of the opposing team (**9-relay bouts**). **In 2 winning sets, in case of a tie a 3rd decisive set will be fence.**
- 3 The bouts of each **set** match have to be fought in the following **order**:

3–6 — 2–5
1–5 — 1–4

2–4 — 2–6
1–6 — 3–5

3–4

1 st Set	2 nd Set	3 rd Set
3–6	2–5	1–4
1–5	3–4	2–6
2–4	1–6	3–5

If this order is **altered**, intentionally or unintentionally, all the hits scored following the modification are annulled and the match is resumed in the correct order.

- 4 The **position of each team on the match score-sheet** is decided by drawing lots. **The order of the individual fencers** is then decided by the team captains.

5

d) Each team captain has one 30-second timeout that can be used during the entire match

t.124

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 set~~) 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 ~~4-4 in pool bouts~~, at ~~14-14 in direct elimination bouts~~ or in team matches at ~~44-44 14-14 in each set~~.

t.41

- 1 Each 'lap' (bout) of the relay match consists of **five 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 bout is **3 minutes**.
- 2 The first two opponents fence until one or both have scored five hits, within the time limit of 3 minutes.

The next two opponents fence until one or both* of their scores has reached ten hits, within the time limit of 3 minutes, and so on with successive bouts, cumulatively, of five hits.
The two opponents in the 3rd relay shoot up to 15 touches to win the set in a maximum time of 3 minutes.
- 3 If by the expiry of 3 minutes of fencing time **the intended score for the bout has not been achieved**, the next two fencers take up the score where it was left off and fence up to the maximum score intended for their bout as normal, within the time limit of 3 minutes.
- 4 **The winning team** is that which first reaches **2 winning sets** ~~the maximum score of 45 hits, or that which has scored the greatest number of hits after the expiry of regulation time.~~
In case of equality, one set for each team, a decisive 3rd set will be played with 15 touches in a maximum time of 3 minutes each.
- 5 **If at the end of regulation time for the last bout of each set the scores are equal**, the match continues for a deciding hit, with a maximum time limit of one minute, fought for by the fencers of the last bout in the match. Before the fencing recommences the Referee draws lots to decide who will be the winner if scores are still equal at the end of the extra minute.

- For team Junior competition (season 2027/2028)
- For team Senior competition after LA 2028 (season 2028/2029)

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:

Decision of Proposal 6 should be postponed. Recommendation: organise working group and a testing events during the junior team competition in 2027/2028 season; check FIE Technical and Organisation rules with working group to make sure that all necessary requirements for the new formula of the team competition are covered (substitution, break between sets, etc.)

o.99.3 QUESTIONS:

- Number 2 finished 1st set and starts the 2nd set, Number 1 finished 2nd set and starts the 3rd set. How many minutes of break should have a fencer?

- If order of the bouts altered, is o.99.3 still possible to apply?

Article t.41.1 not in favour, exception for a penalty hit in set should retain as below:

- 1 Each 'lap' (bout) of the relay ~~in set match~~ consists of **five hits** (5, 10, **and 15, 20, etc.**), Exceptionally, a relay may end at more than 5, **or 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 bout is **3 minutes**.

Article t.41 2-5 change of excretions

- 2 The first two opponents fence until one or both have scored five hits, within the time limit of 3 minutes.

The next two opponents fence until one or both* of their scores has reached ten hits, within the time limit of 3 minutes, and ~~so on with~~ **next opponents of the 3rd relay fence** successive bouts **until score has reached fifteen, within the time limit of 3 minutes**, cumulatively, of five hits.

- 3 If by the expiry of 3 minutes of fencing time **the intended score for the bout has not been achieved**, the next two fencers take up the score where it was left off and fence up to the maximum score intended for their bout as normal, within the time limit of 3 minutes.
~~The two opponents in the 3rd relay shoot up to 15 touches to win the set in a maximum time of 3 minutes~~

- 4 **The winning team** is that which ~~first reaches won 2 winning sets in the team match the maximum score of 45 hits, or that which has scored the greatest number of hits after the expiry of regulation time.~~
~~In case of equality, one set for each team, a decisive 3rd set will be played with 15 touches in a maximum time of 3 minutes each. Irrelevant as it is written that the winning team must win 2 sets.~~

- 5 **If at the end of regulation time for the last bout of each set the scores are equal**, the match continues for a deciding hit, with a maximum time limit of one minute, fought for by the fencers of the last bout in the ~~match-set~~. Before the fencing recommences the Referee draws lots to decide who will be the winner if scores are still equal at the end of the extra minute.

Article o.99 2 Modification as below for more clear expression

0.99 2

The three fencers of one team fence the three fencers of the opposing team **until 2 winning sets (9 3 relay bouts per set)**

Questions to motivation: Each set would have a time limit of 6 minutes (3 periods of 3 minutes).
???

Would the team matches shorter?

- In case of three sets with possible additional minute in case of equal score in each set?

- With breaks between sets?

- With No P-card (yellow, red or black) in team matches at 14-14 in each set if in the 3rd bout of a set after one minute fencers reach score 14-14 and continue 2 minutes without valid hit and then get additional one minute for the decisive hit?

Each set would be fenced independently, with the score reset to 0-0 at the start of each set.

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour with the modification in green.

Applicable as a test for juniors from season 2027-2028.

Application: As a test for juniors from season 2027-2028.

o.41

2 Principles

- c) The matches proceed according to the **2 winning sets team-relay formula**, as provided for in Article o.99 of these Rules.

o.99

The **formula** for the competition is as follows:

- 1 The **relay formula 2 winning sets** applies to all weapons.
- 2 The three fencers of one team fence the three fencers of the opposing team **until 2 winning sets (9-3 relay bouts per set). In 2 winning sets, in case of a tie a 3rd decisive set will be fence.**
- 3 The bouts of each **set** match have to be fought in the following **order**:

~~3-6~~
~~1-5~~
~~2-4~~
~~1-6~~
~~3-4~~
~~2-5~~
~~1-4~~
~~2-6~~
~~3-5~~

1 st Set	2 nd Set	3 rd Set
3-6	2-5	1-4 2-6
1-5	3-4	2-6 1-4
2-4	1-6	3-5

If this order is **altered**, intentionally or unintentionally, all the hits scored following the modification are annulled and the match is resumed in the correct order.

4 The position of each team on the match score-sheet is decided by drawing lots. **The order of the individual fencers** is then decided by the team captains.

5

~~d) Each team captain has one 30-second timeout that can be used during the entire match~~
Between each set will be a 3-minute break.

t.124

3 In both individual and team competitions

a) The 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 sets~~) are valid only for that bout or match. They are not transferable to the following bout or match.

No P-card (red or black) may be awarded in individual competitions at ~~4-4~~ in pool bouts, at ~~14-14~~ in direct elimination bouts or in team matches at ~~44-44~~ 14-14 in each set.

t.41

1 Each 'lap' (bout) of the relay match consists of **five hits** (5, 10, 15, ~~20, etc.~~), Exceptionally, a relay may end at more than 5 or 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 bout is **3 2 minutes**.

2 The first two opponents fence until one or both have scored five hits, within the time limit of **3 2** minutes.

The next two opponents fence until one or both* of their scores has reached ten hits, within the time limit of **3-2** minutes, and so on with successive bouts, cumulatively, of five hits.

The two opponents in the 3rd relay sheet fence up to 15 touches to win the set in a maximum time of 3-2 minutes.

3 If by the expiry of **3 2** minutes of fencing time **the intended score for the bout has not been achieved**, the next two fencers take up the score where it was left off and fence up to the maximum score intended for their bout as normal, within the time limit of **3 2** minutes.

4 **The winning team** is that which first reaches **2 winning sets** ~~the maximum score of 45 hits, or that which has scored the greatest number of hits after the expiry of regulation time.~~
In case of equality, one set for each team, a decisive 3rd set will be played with 15 touches in a maximum time of 3 2 minutes each bout.

5 **If at the end of regulation time for the last bout of each set the scores are equal**, the match continues for a deciding hit, with a maximum time limit of one minute, fought for by

the fencers of the last bout in the match. Before the fencing recommences the Referee draws lots to decide who will be the winner if scores are still equal at the end of the extra minute.

Opinion of the PCM Commission:

The proposed bout order creates unequal recovery conditions between the two teams. Fencer 2 fences the final relay of the first set (2–4) and the opening relay of the second set (2–5). If a third set is required, fencer 1 likewise fences the final relay of the second set (1–6) and the opening relay of the third set (1–4). Therefore, fencers from the team numbered 1–2–3 may have to fence two consecutive relays, whereas no fencer from the team numbered 4–5–6 is placed in the same situation. Under the current nine-relay order, no athlete fences two consecutive relays. The proposed order should therefore be revised to ensure equal recovery conditions for both teams.

Accordingly, in my opinion, the bout order currently used in a 45-touch team match should be retained and divided across the three sets as follows, with the score reset to 0-0 at the start of each set:

1st set

1st relay: 1 vs 4 (cumulative score up to 5 touches)

2nd relay: 2 vs 5 (cumulative score up to 10 touches)

3rd relay: 3 vs 6 (cumulative score up to 15 touches)

2nd set

4th relay: 1 vs 5 (cumulative score up to 5 touches)

5th relay: 3 vs 4 (cumulative score up to 10 touches)

6th relay: 2 vs 6 (cumulative score up to 15 touches)

3rd set

7th relay: 3 vs 5 (cumulative score up to 5 touches)

8th relay: 1 vs 6 (cumulative score up to 10 touches)

9th relay: 2 vs 4 (cumulative score up to 15 touches)

Opinion of the Athletes Commission:

- 1 Review the text highlighted in violet in the motivation, there is an error in the timing.
- 2 In line with the Rules Commission, the Commission agrees that the proposal shall take effect after LA 2028 and be subject to a trial period.

From the motivation: Each set would have a time **limit of 6 minutes (3 periods of 3 minutes).**

Opinion of the Coaches Council: Not in favour

Reasons:

- 1) The proposal will **not reduce the duration** of team matches and may even make them longer.
- 2) Such a major format change should **first be tested at lower-level competitions**, not at World Cups or Championships.
- 3) The format is **more complicated** and less understandable for athletes, coaches and spectators.
- 4) Resetting the score after each set **reduces the continuity, tactics and suspense** of the current relay format.
- 5) The bout order is unfair: the same fencer may fence the **last bout of one set and the first bout of the next**, requiring an additional **5–10-minute break** between sets and further increasing the match duration.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: The proposals should be re-discussed and then tested before being submitted to the Congress. Therefore, the decision must be postponed.

Proposal 7

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: o.42

Motivation: Though the cadet zonal championships are organised by the same organizer, jointly with the junior zonal championships, at the same period and place, with the same officials and referees, and sometimes with the same fencers, the cadet zonal championships are not regulated by the FIE rules because they are not listed below. It is therefore proposed to add the Cadet Zonal Championships in article o.42, in order to regulate the entries to these competitions.

ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

o.42

1. The Zonal Championships recognised by the FIE are the Senior Zonal Championships, **and** the Junior Zonal Championships **and the Cadet Zonal Championships**. Other competitions may be organized by the Zonal Confederations (Veterans, U 23, Cadet circuit, etc.).
2. The program of the Senior Zonal Championships comprises twelve events, six individual and six team —men's foil, women's foil, men's epee, women's epee, men's sabre and women's sabre.
3. The program of the Junior **and Cadet** Zonal Championships comprises 6 individual **Cadet** events **and 6 individual Junior events**, and 6 **Junior** team events — men's foil, women's foil, men's epee, women's epee, men's sabre and women's sabre.
4. The formulae of the competitions are specified in the rules and in the following articles: o.100, o.101 and o.102 (o.102.1 first sentence and o.102.2).

5. For Senior, ~~and Junior~~ **and Cadet** Individual ~~Zone~~ **Zonal** Championships, at each weapon, the federations may enter up to four fencers. For Senior and Junior Team ~~Zone~~ **Zonal** Championships, at each weapon, each federation may enter 1 team (consisting of three fencers with or without a reserve).

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour with the modifications in **green**.

ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

o.42

1. The Zonal Championships recognised by the FIE are the **Cadet, Junior and Senior** Zonal Championships, ~~and the Junior Zonal Championships and the Cadet Zonal Championships~~. Other competitions may be organized by the Zonal Confederations (Veterans, U 23, Cadet circuit, etc.).

2. The program of the Senior Zonal Championships comprises twelve events, six individual and six team —men's foil, women's foil, men's epee, women's epee, men's sabre and women's sabre.

3. The program of the **Cadet and Junior** ~~and Cadet~~ Zonal Championships comprises 6 individual **Cadet** events **and 6 individual Junior events**, and 6 **Junior** team events — men's foil, women's foil, men's epee, women's epee, men's sabre and women's sabre.

4. The formulae of the competitions are specified in the rules and in the following articles: o.100, o.101 and o.102 (o.102.1 first sentence and o.102.2).

5. For **Cadet, Junior and Senior**, ~~and Junior and Cadet~~ Individual ~~Zone~~ **Zonal** Championships, at each weapon, the federations may enter up to four fencers. For **Junior and Senior** ~~and Junior~~ Team ~~Zone~~ **Zonal** Championships, at each weapon, each federation may enter 1 team (consisting of three fencers with or without a reserve).

Opinion of the PCM Commission: Agrees to the proposal.

Opinion of the Athletes Commission: In favour

Opinion of the Coaches Council: In favour

Opinion of the Executive Committee: This article was treated previously with proposal 2 from the Rules Commission. See also the Executive Committee's opinion on this article in Proposal 2 of the Rules Commission.

Proposal 8

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: o.56

Motivation: As it is already permitted to enter additional fencers after the deadline, clarify the addition of a team after the deadline, as already in place for the Senior team World Cups.

Entries for World Championships (all categories) and Zonal Senior ~~and~~ Junior and Cadet Championships

o.56

3 Withdrawal of a fencer or a team

After the cut-off date for entries, there can be no further withdrawal of a name or of a team except in any case of force majeure duly justified.

Should a fencer or team who have been entered **not present themselves to fence**, their federation will be penalised by a **fine** (cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines), payable to the FIE, **except in cases of properly authenticated 'force majeure'**.

4 Addition of fencer(s) or a team after the deadline ~~after the cut-off date.~~

Nevertheless, one or more fencers and/or a team may be added, up until 10.00am (local time in the town hosting the World or Zonal Championships) on the day before the competition, after payment to the FIE of a **penalty** (cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines) **per fencer entry added**. To do this the national federation must address a request to the FIE to add a fencer and/or a team, together with immediate payment of the penalty.

5 Changes of names, only with the agreement of the FIE, can only be made at the latest up to 24 hours before the start of each event.

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour with the modifications in green.

Entries for World Championships (all categories) and Cadet, Junior and Senior Zonal Senior ~~and Junior~~ Championships

o.56

3 Withdrawal of a fencer or a team

After the ~~cut-off date~~ **deadline** for entries, there can be no further withdrawal of a name or of a team except in any case of force majeure duly justified.

Should a fencer or team who have been entered **not present themselves to fence**, their federation will be penalised by a **fine (cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines)**, payable to the FIE, **except in cases of properly authenticated 'force majeure'**.

4 Addition of fencer(s) or a team after the deadline ~~after the cut-off date.~~

Nevertheless, one or more fencers **and/or a team** may be added, up until 10.00am (**local time in the town hosting the World or Zonal Championships**) on the day before the competition, after payment to the FIE of a **penalty (cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines) per fencer entry added**. To do this the national federation must address a request to the FIE to add a fencer **and/or a team**, together with immediate payment of the penalty.

5 Changes of names, only with the agreement of the FIE, can only be made at the latest up to 24 hours before the start of each event.

Opinion of the Athletes Commission: In favour

Opinion of the Coaches Council: In favour

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Rules Commission.

Proposal 9

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: o.60

Motivation: Though the cadet zonal championships are organised by the same organizer, jointly with the junior zonal championships, at the same period and place, with the same officials and referees, and sometimes with the same fencers, the cadet zonal championships are not regulated in FIE rules because they are not listed below. It is therefore proposed to add the word "cadet" in article o.60.

~~Zone~~ Zonal Championship

o.60

For **cadet**, junior and senior Individual **~~Zone~~-Zonal** Championship competitions, at each weapon, the federations may enter up to 4 fencers.

For junior and senior Team **~~Zone~~-Zonal** Championship competitions, at each weapon, the federations may enter 1 team (consisting of three fencers with or without a reserve).

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the PCM Commission: Agrees to the proposal.

Opinion of the Athletes Commission: In favour

Opinion of the Coaches Council: In favour

Opinion of the Executive Committee: This article was already handled with proposal 2 from the Rules Commission.

Proposal 10

Presented by: Rules Commission

Article: o.62

Motivation: In recent years, the number of participants in Senior individual World Cup and Grand Prix competitions has increased significantly, which results in extremely long competition days and increased logistical pressure on organizers, referees, athletes and officials. The excessive duration of competitions affects the quality of the event, athlete performance conditions and the overall efficiency of the competition schedule. It also increases organizational costs and operational complexity for host federations.

For the majority of National Federations, which typically enter between 1 and 6 athletes, the introduction of an 8-fencer limit would not restrict their participation. On the contrary, it would create a more balanced competition environment.

o.62

1 For **Grand Prix competitions and Senior Individual World Cup competitions**, ~~Cadet, Junior and Senior, Senior and Junior~~, at each weapon, each national federation may enter a maximum of ~~12~~ 8 fencers. The organising country may enter up to 20 fencers plus the number needed to make up the pools.

2 ~~For Individual World Cup competitions outside Europe, the organising country may enter up to 30 fencers plus the number needed to make up the pools. For~~ **Cadet and Junior Individual World Cup competitions**, 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.

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: not in favour o.62.1, however, if the number should be reduced, Refereeing Commission proposes to reduce to 10 fencers from each National Federation.

Opinion of the PCM Commission: The PCM Commission is challenging this proposal. Reducing the number of athletes allowed to participate from 12 to 8 would make competitive fencing less

attractive in countries where the sport is still developing. Making access to international competitions more difficult may discourage athletes, lead them to end their competitive careers earlier and ultimately turn away from our sport. This measure would therefore run counter to the objective of developing fencing worldwide.

Opinion of the Athletes Commission: In favour

Opinion of The Coaches Council: Not in favour

Reasons:

- 1) Reducing the maximum number of entries from 12 to 8 **does not solve the real scheduling problem**, as it mainly affects the first day of competition, which is generally not the longest or most difficult day.
- 2) The proposal would unnecessarily **limit opportunities for developing athletes**, particularly juniors and Under-23 fencers from leading fencing nations, to gain valuable international experience.
- 3) The Coaches Council **supports the second part of the proposal** regarding the entry limits for the organising country at competitions held outside Europe.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: This proposal does not affect the Cadet and Junior World Cups, as the number of fencers who may be entered remains fixed at 12, with the exception of the number of fencers that may be entered by the host country for competitions outside Europe, for which the number has been standardised, regardless of the continent on which the competition takes place.

The Executive Committee agrees with the proposal, but with implementation to commence from the 2028–2029 season, so as not to affect the current Olympic cycle.

Proposal 11

Presented by: Rules Commission

Article: o.83, o.85, o.86, o.87

Motivation: In recent years, participation in individual World Cup and Grand Prix competitions has increased considerably, with some events reaching over 300 athletes. Many of the athletes ask for equal conditions in the individual competition. In order to have equal conditions in senior FIE competitions, all the participants should start compete from the pools. After the pools all the qualifies athletes will fence the direct elimination table up to T64 in the first day. No top 16 world ranking exempte, no top 16 after the pools will be qualify direct to the T64. In the second day the rest of T64 will be fence. So all Senior FIE events will use one unifies formula.

All the FIE competition should have a fixed percentage of eliminated fencers after the round of pools.

C. MIXED FORMULA A. SENIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, SENIOR WORLD CUPS AND GRAND PRIX

Mixed formula A

o.83

One qualifying round of pools, a ~~preliminary~~ direct elimination table, ~~a main direct elimination table~~ of ~~64~~ fencers to qualify for a final by direct elimination.

This formula is used for the individual competitions of the Senior World Championships as well as for the Senior World Cup competitions and Grand Prix competitions.

o.85

1 The competition consists of two phases, a preliminary phase and a main phase, each of which are run on one day.

~~2 The 16 fencers entered who are ranked highest in the most recent official FIE classification are exempt from the preliminary phase.~~

3 2 Should a fencer who has been entered not turn up, a fine (cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines), payable to the FIE, is inflicted on the Federation of the fencer at fault except in a case of force majeure which is duly justified.

~~4 In the case of a tie in the official FIE ranking between two or more fencers for the 16th exempt place, lots are drawn to decide which of these fencers will benefit from exemption from the preliminary phase.~~

o.86

1 For World Cups ~~T~~ the preliminary phase consists of one round of pools, from which ~~25%~~ ~~20%~~ ~~30%~~ of the participants in the pools are eliminated, based on the indices of all ~~participants competing in them~~, and a ~~preliminary~~ direct elimination table ~~until 64 fencers remain~~. For World Championship and Grand Prix competitions, the number of fencers eliminated on the indices of the pools must be 30%.

~~2 After the round of pools, the 16 fencers ranked highest on the general index (cf o.73) are exempt from the preliminary direct elimination table. Should there be a tie between two or more fencers for the 16th place, there will be a barrage for 5 hits to decide who is ranked 16th. Following the barrage, the ranking of the fencers is determined according to V, HS-HR, HS.~~

3 2 The remainder of the fencers qualifying from the pools will make up a ~~preliminary integral~~ direct elimination table. This will be based on the indices of the fencers in all the pools (in the case of a tie on indices, the fencers will be separated by drawing lots). This table, be it complete or incomplete, will be fenced until only ~~64~~ ~~32~~ fencers remain.

o.87

1 The main phase consists of a ~~n~~ 64 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 either on four pistes or on eight pistes, all equipped with the video refereeing.

~~2 The seeded fencers exempted from the preliminary phase occupy places 1–16 in this table, drawing lots in pairs in the order of their official FIE classification.~~

~~3 Should one of the 16 exempted fencers who had been entered not present himself to fence (cf. o.85), his position in the table will remain empty and his federation will be required to pay to the FIE a fine (cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines) unless his absence is caused by circumstances duly justified as being outside his control.~~

~~4 The 16 fencers who have the highest indices after the round of pools and who are thus exempt from the preliminary direct elimination table will take places 17–32, classified in the order of their indices (in the case of a tie on indices, the fencers will be separated by drawing lots).~~

~~5 The 32 fencers qualifying from the preliminary direct elimination table will occupy places 33–64, classified according to their indices after the round of pools.~~

~~6 The drawing of lots and allocation of the qualified fencers in the main table (T64) shall be made at the end of the preliminary table in the presence of the Directoire Technique President.~~

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour with the modifications in green.

C. MIXED FORMULA A. SENIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, SENIOR WORLD CUPS AND GRAND PRIX

Mixed formula A

o.83

One qualifying round of pools, a preliminary direct elimination table, ~~a main direct elimination table~~ of 64 fencers to qualify for a final by direct elimination.

This formula is used for the individual competitions of the Senior World Championships as well as for the Senior World Cup competitions and Grand Prix competitions.

o.85

1 The competition consists of two phases, a preliminary phase and a main phase, each of which are run on one day.

~~2 The 16 fencers entered who are ranked highest in the most recent official FIE classification are exempt from the preliminary phase.~~

3 2 Should a fencer who has been entered not turn up, a fine (cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines), payable to the FIE, is inflicted on the Federation of the fencer at fault except in a case of force majeure which is duly justified.

~~4 In the case of a tie in the official FIE ranking between two or more fencers for the 16th exempt place, lots are drawn to decide which of these fencers will benefit from exemption from the preliminary phase.~~

o.86

1 For Senior World Cups, Grand Prix competitions and World Championship ~~the~~ preliminary phase consists of one round of pools, from which 25% ~~20%–30%~~ of the participants in the pools are eliminated, based on the indices of all ~~participants competing in them~~, and a preliminary direct elimination table until 64 fencers remain. ~~For World Championship and Grand Prix competitions, the number of fencers eliminated on the indices of the pools must be 30%.~~

~~2 After the round of pools, the 16 fencers ranked highest on the general index (cf o.73) are exempt from the preliminary direct elimination table. Should there be a tie between two or more fencers for the 16th place, there will be a barrage for 5 hits to decide who is ranked 16th. Following the barrage, the ranking of the fencers is determined according to V, HS-HR, HS.~~

~~3-2~~ The remainder of the fencers qualifying from the pools will make up a preliminary integral direct elimination table. This will be based on the indices of the fencers in all the pools (in the case of a tie on indices, the fencers will be separated by drawing lots). This table, be it complete or incomplete, will be fenced until only 64 ~~32~~ fencers remain.

o.87

1 The main phase consists of an 64 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 either on four pistes or on eight pistes, all equipped with the video refereeing.

~~2 The seeded fencers exempted from the preliminary phase occupy places 1–16 in this table, drawing lots in pairs in the order of their official FIE classification.~~

~~3 Should one of the 16 exempted fencers who had been entered not present himself to fence (cf. o.85), his position in the table will remain empty and his federation will be required to pay to the FIE a fine (cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines) unless his absence is caused by circumstances duly justified as being outside his control.~~

~~4 The 16 fencers who have the highest indices after the round of pools and who are thus exempt from the preliminary direct elimination table will take places 17–32, classified in the order of their indices (in the case of a tie on indices, the fencers will be separated by drawing lots).~~

~~5 The 32 fencers qualifying from the preliminary direct elimination table will occupy places 33–64, classified according to their indices after the round of pools.~~

~~6 The drawing of lots and allocation of the qualified fencers in the main table (T64) shall be made at the end of the preliminary table in the presence of the Directoire Technique President.~~

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: In favour, should start from the season 2028-2029

Opinion of the PCM Commission: The PCM Commission is challenging this proposal for two reasons. First, although the pool results would still be used to determine the cut and establish the ranking for the preliminary direct elimination table, the proposal would remove direct qualification to the following day's Table of 64 for the 16 best-performing fencers after the pools. In our view, a strong

performance in the pools should continue to provide a meaningful sporting advantage. The 16 highest-ranked fencers after the pools should therefore qualify directly for the Table of 64, as is currently the case.

Second, removing the protection currently provided by the FIE World Ranking is inconsistent with the approach adopted in other major individual sports. Tennis, table tennis, judo and taekwondo all use ranking-based seeding to separate the strongest competitors and prevent them from meeting too early in the competition. Seeding rewards consistency, preserves the value of the world ranking and helps create a balanced and understandable draw. The FIE should therefore retain a clear seeding mechanism based on its World Ranking.

Opinion of the Athletes Commission: In favour, I should point out that this proposal has been mentioned by the Athletes' Commission in the past.

Opinion of the Coaches Council: Not in favour

Reasons:

- 1) The proposal **adds unnecessary complexity** to the competition format without providing any significant benefit.
- 2) The current system is well established and does not require such extensive changes.
- 3) The Coaches Council supports **a fixed elimination rate of 25% after the round of pools** for all Senior World Cups, Grand Prix and World Championships to ensure consistency across competitions.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Also agrees a fixed elimination rate of 25% after the round of pools for all Senior World Cups, Grand Prix and World Championships to ensure consistency across competitions.

However, for the rest of the proposal, and before voting on a proposal involving substantial changes, it would be advisable to conduct a thorough assessment of its potential effects. This could include simulations based on data from past competitions to evaluate how the proposed rules might have influenced results, competition formats, schedules, athlete participation, refereeing, organisation and other relevant aspects. The proposed changes could also be tested in selected continental or national competitions, in close cooperation with the federations and organisers concerned. Such a process would provide valuable practical feedback, help identify any unforeseen consequences or implementation challenges, and allow the expected benefits, improvements and other outcomes to be measured objectively. It would also offer an opportunity to refine the proposal where necessary or to explore other possible options. This evidence-based and collaborative approach would strengthen confidence in the proposed changes and contribute to the adoption of regulations that are both effective and beneficial to fencing. This proposal should therefore be postponed.

Proposal 12

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: o.89

Motivation: Though the cadet zonal championships are organised by the same organizer, jointly with the junior zonal championships, at the same period and place, with the same officials and referees, and sometimes with the same fencers, the cadet zonal championships are not regulated by FIE' rules because they are not listed below. It is therefore proposed to list all zonals in article below.

D. MIXED FORMULA B – JUNIOR AND CADET WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, CADET WORLD CUPS, 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, the Cadet and Junior World Cup competitions and Cadet, Junior and Senior Zonal Championships. ~~The seeding rules for the Zonal Cadet Championships are established by the Zonal Confederations.~~

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour with the modifications in green.

D. MIXED FORMULA B – CADET AND JUNIOR AND CADET WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, CADET WORLD CUPS, 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 Cadet and Junior and Cadet World Championships, the Cadet and Junior World Cup competitions and Cadet, Junior and Senior Zonal Championships. ~~The seeding rules for the Zonal Cadet Championships are established by the Zonal Confederations.~~

Opinion of the PCM Commission: In favour

Opinion of the Athletes Commission: In favour

Opinion of the Coaches Council: In favour

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Rules Commission.

Proposal 13

Presented by: Rules Commission

Article: o.92

Motivation: All the FIE competition should have a fixed percentage of eliminated fencers after the round of pools.

o.92

The competition consists of **one round of pools**, in which **all the fencers present take part** and an integral direct elimination table. For Cadet and Junior World Cups and Cadet, Junior and Senior Zonal Championships competitions, the number of fencers eliminated on the indices of the pools must be 25%. For Cadet and Junior World Championships competitions, the number of fencers eliminated on the indices of the pools must be 30%.

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour with the modification in green.

The competition consists of **one round of pools**, in which **all the fencers present take part** and an integral direct elimination table. For Cadet and Junior World Cups and Cadet, Junior and Senior Zonal Championships competitions, the number of fencers eliminated on the indices of the pools must be 25%. For Cadet and Junior World Championships competitions, the number of fencers eliminated on the indices of the pools must be ~~30~~ 25%.

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: In favour

Opinion of the PCM Commission: In favour

Opinion of the Athletes Commission: In favour

Opinion of the Coaches Council: In favour with amendment

Recommendation:

The Coaches Council recommends a uniform elimination rate of 25% after the round of pools for all FIE competitions, including Cadet, Junior and Senior events, to ensure consistency, simplicity and fairness across all competition formats.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: The number of fencers eliminated should be 25 per cent across all FIE competitions. The Executive Committee agrees with the proposal as revised by the Rules Commission.

Proposal 14

Presented by: Rules Commission

Article: o.98, o.100

Motivation: The Senior and Junior World Cups bring together a very large number of participants. With the current format, the competition has become increasingly difficult to manage due to the growing number of registered athletes. No other sport offers such a long competition format in a single day.

This situation results in significant physical and mental fatigue for the athletes, increased pressure on coaches and officials, an excessive workload for event organizers, and considerable fatigue for referees, whose concentration must remain at the highest level throughout the entire event.

Furthermore, such an extended format greatly reduces media appeal. No media outlet, journalist, photographer, or television broadcaster can reasonably cover a continuous competition lasting 9 to 12 hours. This limits international visibility and hinders the development of the discipline.

For all these reasons, we propose that the Senior and Junior World Cups adopt a full direct elimination format.

This system would allow for a significant reduction in the overall duration of the competition, better clarity for the public and the media, increased sporting intensity in every round, more efficient and professional organization, and improved working conditions for referees and officials.

This reform would make the competition more dynamic, more attractive, and better aligned with modern international sporting standards.

TEAM COMPETITIONS

A. JUNIOR, SENIOR ~~AND JUNIOR~~ WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS AND ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

o.98

- 1** The competition is run by **integral direct elimination** with a direct elimination table which may be incomplete (see table Annex b).
- 2** At the Junior, ~~and~~ Senior World Championships **and Zonal Championships** the teams occupy the places in the table according to the **most recent official team ranking of the FIE**. The teams that are not classified occupy the last places in the table and will be separated by drawing of lots.
- 3** At the **Junior, Senior, ~~and Junior~~ World Championships and Zonal Championships**, all places in the table up to 16th place are fought for. From 17th place onwards teams are classified, within each round of the table, according to their initial place in the table.

o.100

~~Apart from the following aspects, the competition is run in accordance with rules laid down for the team events in the Junior, Senior World Championships and Zonal Championships respectively.~~

- 1 The competition is run by **integral direct elimination** with a direct elimination table which may be incomplete (see table Annex A).
- 2 At the Junior and Senior World Cup the teams occupy the places in the table according to the **most recent official team ranking of the FIE**. The teams that are not classified occupy the last places in the table and will be separated by drawing of lots.
- 3 **At the Junior and Senior World Cup, the competition format is direct elimination** onwards teams are classified, within each round of the table, according to their initial place in the table.

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: Not in favour, as each point is important for OG qualification, the competitions would be more dynamic and more attractive, because more fencing matches will be presented for spectators, possibility for teams to fence more and more work for referees to get experience and practise.

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour with the modifications in green.

TEAM COMPETITIONS

A. **JUNIOR AND SENIOR AND JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS AND ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

o.98

- 1 The competition is run by **integral direct elimination** with a direct elimination table which may be incomplete (see table Annex b).
- 2 At the Junior and Senior World Championships **and Zonal Championships** the teams occupy the places in the table according to the **most recent official team ranking of the FIE**. The teams that are not classified occupy the last places in the table and will be separated by drawing of lots.
- 3 **At the Junior and Senior, and Junior World Championships and Zonal Championships**, all places in the table up to 16th place are fought for. From 17th place onwards teams are classified, within each round of the table, according to their initial place in the table.

o.100

~~Apart from the following aspects, the competition is run in accordance with rules laid down for the team events in the Junior, Senior World Championships and Zonal Championships respectively.~~

- 1 The competition is held as a **fully knockout tournament**, with the draw possibly being incomplete (see draw in Appendix A).
- 2 At the Junior and Senior World Cups, teams are allocated places in the draw according to the **up-to-date official FIE team rankings**. Unranked teams occupy the bottom places in the draw and are allocated their positions by a draw.
- 3 **At the Junior and Senior World Cups, the competition format is a single-elimination tournament**. Teams are then ranked, within each round of the draw, according to their initial position in the rankings.

Opinion of the PCM Commission: The PCM Commission is challenging this proposal. Team World Cups must also provide opportunities for progress and development, particularly for nations where fencing is less established. Classification matches allow these teams to gain valuable international experience, fence against opponents of a comparable level and continue improving throughout the competition. Under a straight knockout format, a developing team could be eliminated after only one match, which would considerably reduce the sporting and developmental value of its participation. We would therefore retain classification matches for teams competing for places 17 to 32.

Opinion of the Athletes Commission: In favour

Opinion of the Coaches Council: STRONGLY AGAINST THE PROPOSAL

- 1) This proposal would seriously harm the development of fencing, particularly in developing and smaller fencing nations.
- 2) Many teams would travel long distances and at considerable expense to fence only one match, often against a top-ranked fencer, discouraging participation.
- 3) The current Senior format provides more competition opportunities and valuable international experience for all fencers.

Recommendation:

Rather than changing the Senior format, the Coaches Council recommends **aligning the Cadet and Junior team competition formats with the current Senior system**, creating a single, consistent competition format across all age categories.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: In favour of the proposal as revised by the Rules Commission but with an application from the season 2028-2029, in order not to impact the current Olympic Cycle.

Proposal 15

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: o.105

Motivation: Cadet Zonal Championships should follow the same rule as Junior Zonal championships.

Video Refereeing

o.105

Video-refereeing is compulsory at all three weapons at Grand Prix, Senior World Cup individual and team competitions, the Junior and Cadet World Championships, the World Championships and Olympic Games, **cadet, junior and senior** Zonal Championships and qualification events for the Olympic Games. It is optional at the Veteran World Championships.

1 For World Cup individual, Grand Prix competitions, **senior Zonal Zone** Championships and qualification events for the Olympic Games, video-refereeing is compulsory and must be used as soon as the timetable allows the competition to be run on 4 pistes or 8 pistes, and in any case, **from the table of 64.**

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
Grand-Prix	T 64	----- -	4 or 8	-----
Senior World Championships	T 64	T16	4 or 8	T 1-8
Junior/Cadet World Championships	T 32	T 16 (juniors)	8	T 1-8
Senior Zonal Championship	T 64	T 16	4 or 8	T 1-8
Cadet and Junior Zonal Championship	not mandatory T16	not mandatory T 16 (juniors)	not mandatory 4 or 8	not mandatory T 1-8
Veteran World Championships	not mandatory	not mandatory	not mandatory	not mandatory
Zonal qualifying events for the Olympic Games	Pools	----- --	All pistes	-----
Olympic Games	Mandatory for all phases of the Olympic competition			

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: In favour

Opinion of Rules Commission: In favour with the modifications in green.

o.105

Video-refereeing is compulsory at all three weapons at Grand Prix, Senior World Cup individual and team competitions, the **Cadet and Junior** ~~and Cadet~~ World Championships, the World Championships and Olympic Games, ~~e~~**Cadet**, ~~j~~**Junior** and ~~s~~**Senior** Zonal Championships and qualification events for the Olympic Games. It is optional at the Veteran World Championships.

1 For World Cup individual, Grand Prix competitions, ~~sSenior Zonal Zone~~ Championships and qualification events for the Olympic Games, video-refereeing is compulsory and must be used as soon as the timetable allows the competition to be run on 4 pistes or 8 pistes, and in any case, **from the table of 64.**

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
Grand-Prix	T 64	-----	4 or 8	-----
Senior World Championships	T 64	T16	4 or 8	T 1-8
Junior/Cadet World Championships	T 32	T 16 (juniors)	8	T 1-8
Senior Zonal Championships	T 64	T 16	4 or 8	T 1-8
Cadet and Junior Zonal Championships	~~not mandatory~~ T16	~~not mandatory~~ T 16 (juniors)	~~not mandatory~~ 4 or 8	~~not mandatory~~ T 1-8
Veteran World Championships	not mandatory	not mandatory	not mandatory	not mandatory
Zonal qualifying events for the Olympic Games	Pools	-----	All pistes	-----
Olympic Games	Mandatory for all phases of the Olympic competition			

Opinion of the Athletes Commission: In favour

Opinion of the Coaches Council: In favour with amendment

Recommendation:

The Coaches Council supports extending compulsory video refereeing to **Cadet Zonal Championships** to align with the Junior Zonal Championships.

However, for effective implementation, **a minimum of eight video-equipped pistes with qualified video referees should be mandatory** at these competitions. This will ensure consistency, fairness and efficient operation of the event.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Rules Commission.

Proposal 16

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: o.108

Motivation: Related to the addition of Cadet Zonal Championships.

Official FIE individual ranking**o.108 1****1 Principles**

- 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 **and the Zonal Championships**

o.108 2**2 Scale of points**

- c) Points obtained in **a Grand Prix** and **a individual Zonal Championships competition** of the FIE (**cadet, junior and senior**) are multiplied by a factor of 1.5.

Opinion of Rules Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the PCM Commission: In favour

Opinion of the Athletes Commission: In favour

Opinion of the Coaches Council: In favour

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 17

Presented by: French Fencing Federation

Article o.110

2025 Proposal for a Points Freeze System Due to Maternity

Motivation: The idea is to introduce a rule that takes into account an athlete's maternity period without negatively impacting her ranking or return to competition.

Considering Article o.108 of the FIE regulations regarding individual official rankings and in line with Chapter 1 on rankings in the organizational rules, it would be appropriate to integrate this provision as a new Article o.110.

Proposal Overview:

The goal is to implement a points freeze when an athlete officially declares her pregnancy.

Process: The athlete must notify the FIE of her pregnancy by providing a pregnancy certificate issued by the competent authority in her country and submitting it to the appropriate FIE body responsible for this matter.

Upon receipt of the request, the FIE will freeze the athlete's ranking points based on the results of her last competition before the pregnancy declaration.

At the end of her pregnancy (i.e., on the child's birth date), the athlete must submit a birth certificate to the FIE within two months. This declaration will trigger a twelve (12) month period from the child's birthdate, during which the athlete may resume competition. If she does not return within this period, the points freeze will end.

Due to the rolling nature of the ranking system, when the athlete resumes competition, the frozen ranking will be reinstated. The ranking will then resume its normal rolling process from the competition in which the athlete returns.

What are the possible implications for an Olympic year?

Qualification via the OAR senior individual by zone?

There must be a minimum number of participations in competitions to qualify via the OAR (Official Adjusted Ranking) senior individual by zone.

Here is a proposed draft of the article:

[Article o.110 - Points Freeze Due to Maternity](#)

1. Concept of the "points freeze"

When an athlete officially declares her pregnancy, her official FIE individual ranking points are frozen to maintain her position without negatively affecting her return to competition.

2. Request Procedure

- a. The athlete must inform the FIE of her pregnancy by submitting a certificate issued by a doctor or the competent authority in her country to the FIE Medical Commission.
- b. Upon receiving the request and certificate, and after validation by the Medical Commission, which has full authority to request any documents it deems necessary

from the athlete, the FIE freezes the athlete's points at the end of the last individual or team competition held before the FIE validates the application of the point freeze for the athlete concerned.

3. Duration of the Freeze

- a. **Childbirth:** The athlete must submit a birth certificate to the FIE within two (2) months of the child's birth. The child's birthdate marks the start of a twelve (12) month period during which the athlete may resume competition. If the athlete does not return within this timeframe, the points freeze will end, and the ranking will continue as normal.
- b. **Miscarriage or Medical Termination of Pregnancy :** The athlete must submit a medical certificate to the FIE. within two (2) months of the miscarriage or MITP.
 - In the event of a miscarriage, the points freeze remains in effect for four (4) months from the date of the event.
 - In the event of an MTP, the points freeze remains in effect for six (6) months from the date of the event.

The points freeze is lifted at the athlete's first individual or team competition.

If an athlete does not respect these deadlines, the points freeze will be lifted with retroactive effect to the date of the request made to the FIE Medical Commission, and the athlete will lose all her points for the competitions in which she did not take part.

4. Reintegration into the Ranking

- a. When the athlete resumes competition, the frozen points are reinstated based on the competition calendar.
- b. Considering the rolling nature of the ranking system, points from competitions missed during the maternity period will be reapplied based on the frozen ranking.
- c. The ranking system resumes its normal rolling process from the first competition the athlete participates in after returning.

This proposal ensures that athletes are not penalized for maternity leave and can return to competition under fair conditions.

5. Olympic year

During an Olympic year, an athlete who has benefited from the points freeze may only claim individual qualification, on the basis of the Official Adjusted Ranking, if she has taken part in a minimum of five official competitions during the season provided for this purpose by the FIE.

Failing this, and in order to guarantee fairness between athletes, the points freeze system will not apply for competitions having an effect on the OAR.

Opinion of the working group:

Opinion of the Executive Committee: The Executive Committee is waiting for a final proposal from the working group. Note: article o.110 already exists in the Organisation Rules and if a final proposal is made, it should be with a different article number.

Proposal 18

Presented by: Rules Commission

Article: o.119

(Urgent decision) For Team competition Veterans World Championship 2026 for to use the new formula in next Veterans World Championship in Tbilisi 2026

o.119

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.

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~~ **2 winning sets** described in o.99 with application of non-combativity rule at any match.

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: cannot used in Tbilisi, it should be approved by FIE Congress

Opinion of Rules Commission: In favour with the modifications in **green**.

Application: Starting with 2027 Veterans World Championship

o.119

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.

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~~ **2 winning sets** described in o.99 with application of non-combativity rule at any match.

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, **moreover in the case of a team being short of a fencer in the age group 40-59, the team may use a fencer who has competed in the individual championships in the age groups 60 and 70 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/she is going to fence plus 1.

b) The teams are placed in the direct elimination table according to the ranking of the two best fencers in each ~~category~~ **age group** 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 who has been replaced because of medical reasons may not fence again during that match. If both a fencer and the reserves are forced to retire, or if a fencer is excluded, and the team cannot maintain compliance with the age category representation requirement, therefore has lost the match.

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

Opinion of the PCM Commission: In favour

Opinion of the Athletes Commission: In favour

Opinion of the Coaches Council: Not in favour

Opinion of the Veterans Council: In favour

Opinion of the Executive Committee: This proposal should be re-discussed and tested before being submitted to the Congress. Therefore, the decision should be postponed.

Proposal 19

Presented by: Executive Committee

Article: Index to articles

Motivation: This proposal is in relation with proposals related to Cadet Zonal Championships.

Zonal Championships:

- [Cadet](#), Junior: o.60, o. 89-96, o.100-102
- Senior: o.42, o.55, o.60, o.89-96, o.100-102, o.105, o.108.2.d

Opinion of Rules Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposals for the 2026 Congress
Modifications of the Technical Rules

The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.

Proposal 20

Presented by: Refereeing Commission

Article: t.9.1

Motivation: In definition of attack is only explanation concerning movement of the arm, but nothing about moving forward the feet, extending arm on the spot or with step back could be considered as an attack according to the existing t.9.1.

t.9.1

The **attack** is the initial offensive action ~~made~~ of non-stop movement forward, started by extending the arm and continuously threatening the opponent's target, preceding the launching of the lunge or fleche (cf. t.83, t.84, t.85 and t.101ss).

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: in favour

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Athletes Commission: non-conclusive opinion

Opinion of the Coaches Council: Not in favour

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 21

Presented by: Rules Commission

Article: t.22, t.170 1.13)

Motivation: To add clarity and consistency for the commonly given penalty of "false starts"

The penalty for the "false start" it is not explicated stated in the rulebook. It is most consistently given in sabre but is less consistently given in foil and epee. By explicitly stating this as a rule, ambiguity and inconsistency is removed, and it will be more evenly applied and easily understood and expected by all.

t.22

12. The fencers must come on guard correctly and remain completely still until the command 'Play!' is given by the Referee. A fencer who does not remain still or who initiates an action before the command "Play" commits an offense in the 1st group and will be penalized in accordance with Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170.

t.170

1st group

1.13	Refusal to obey the Referee, False Start	t.108, t.112, t.22.12	Yellow	Red	Red
------	--	-----------------------	--------	-----	-----

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:

in favour for text in t.22, however, to add in t.170 in current empty 1.11 and wording as in t.22

1.10	At foil and épée, bending, dragging weapon point on conductive piste	t.76.2, t.90.2	YELLOW	RED	RED
1.11	Start before the command "Play"	t.22.12			
1.12	At sabre, hit made with the guard *, any forward movement crossing the legs or feet *	t.96.3, t.101.5			

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Athletes Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Coaches Council: In favour

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the text of article t.22, and for article t.170 agrees with the opinion of the Refereeing Commission.

Proposal 22

Presented by: Refereeing Commission

Article: t.27

Motivation: To make clear that hit before "Halt!" should be awarded.

t.27

2 It is forbidden to turn one's back on one's opponent during the bout. Should such an offence occur, the Referee will penalise the fencer at fault as specified in articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170, for the offences of the 1st group and any hit scored by the fencer at fault is annulled. However, the hit of the opponent before the Referee called 'Halt!' is valid.

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: In favour

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Athletes Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Coaches Council: In favour

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 23

Presented by: Refereeing Commission

Article: t.34

Motivation: To keep the same terminology like in t.22.10

t.34

Should a competitor cross the rear limit of the piste completely- i.e. with both feet — a **technical** hit will be ~~scored~~ **awarded** against him.

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: In favour

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Athletes Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Coaches Council: In favour

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 24

Presented by: Rules Commission

Article: t.35, t.170 2.7)

Motivation: As nowadays leaving the piste to avoid being hit has become a tactic and it should be penalised with “Red Card”.

t.35

- 3 A competitor who crosses **intentionally** one of the lateral boundaries of the piste with **one or** both feet — e.g. when making a flèche **or to stop his opponent's attack** — to avoid being

hit will be penalised as specified in Articles t.158 -~~t.162, t.165~~, **t. 166**, t.170, for the offences of the ~~1st~~ **2nd** group. Any hit made by the offending fencer is annulled.

t.170

2.7	Crossing lateral boundary of the piste to avoid being hit (*)	t.35.3	Red	Red	Red
-----	---	---------------	-----	-----	-----

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: In favour

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favor.

Opinion of the Athletes Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Coaches Council: In favour, but different wording -

A competitor who crosses intentionally one of the lateral boundaries of the piste with one or both feet to avoid being hit will be penalised as specified in Articles t.158 -162, t.165, t. 166, t.170, for the offences of the 2nd group. Any hit made by the offending fencer is annulled.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal from the Rules Commission.

Proposal 25

Presented by: Refereeing Commission

Article: t.39

Motivation: There is no requirements to name a person's name before the bout, but the person on the piste should be accredited.

t.39

2 During the one-minute rests, an **accredited** person ~~named before the bout~~, may have access to the fencer.

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: In favour

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour with the modifications in **green**.

t.39

2 During the one-minute rests, an **accredited** person **who is allowed on the field of play** ~~named before the bout~~, may have access to the fencer.

Opinion of the Athletes Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Coaches Council: In favour

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Rules Commission.

Proposal 26

Presented by: Refereeing Commission

Article: t.62

Motivation: To avoid unnecessary repetitions and have the regulations in case of technical problems if a video is not available. Cf. articles t.62.2, t.61.1-2, t.62.3, t.62.4.

t.62

- 1 There shall only be a maximum of 4 repetitions of the action. The referee can choose to review the action in real time or in slow motion, at any speed he wishes.
 - 2 At all weapons and at any time, the referee **on her/his own initiative** may consult his monitor before making a decision.
 - 3 If the fencers' scores are equal at the end of the match, for the decisive hit, the referee must use the video-refereeing before even giving his decision.
 - 4 The video-referee may at any time request that the referee use the video-refereeing.
 - 5 Once the referee, together with the video-referee, 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-referee's 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~~, the opinions of the referee and the video-referee must be recorded on the match sheet.
 - 7 **In case of technical problems if a video is not available:**
 - **once the referee has made a decision on the piste, that decision cannot be changed**
 - **if no decision has been made, the Referee abstains**
 - **it is up to the referee to make the final decision regarding a decisive hit**

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: In favour

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour with the modifications in **green** and the text in blue scratched.

t.62

- 1 There shall only be a maximum of 4 repetitions of the action. The referee can choose to review the action in real time or in slow motion, at any speed he wishes.
- 2 At all weapons and at any time, the referee **on her/his own initiative** may consult his monitor before making a decision.
- 3 If the fencers' scores are equal at the end of the match, for the decisive hit, the referee must use the video-refereeing before even giving his decision.
- 4 The video-referee may at any time request that the referee use the video-refereeing.
- 5 Once the referee, together with the video-referee, 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-referee's 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~~, the opinions of the referee and the video-referee must be recorded on the match sheet.

~~7 In case of technical problems if a video is not available:~~

- ~~— once the referee has made a decision on the piste, that decision cannot be changed~~
- ~~— if no decision has been made, the Referee abstains~~
- ~~— it is up to the referee to make the final decision regarding a decisive hit~~

7 In the event that video-refereeing cannot be used due to technical issues:

- If the referee has already taken a decision on the piste, that decision shall stand.
- If no decision was taken, the referee shall abstain.
- In the case of a decisive hit, after attempting to initiate video-refereeing, the referee may make the final decision on the piste, even in the absence of video.

Opinion of the Athletes Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Coaches Council: In favour

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Rules Commission.

Proposal 27

Presented by: Refereeing Commission

Article: t.64

Motivation: The place inside the Piste Enclosure is for the referees working zone and must be free of foreign objects.

t.64

7. No recording devices placed inside the Piste Enclosure.

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: In favour

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour with the addition of the text in green.

t.64

7. No recording devices are placed inside the Piste Enclosure.

Opinion of the SEMI Commission: We should define the items that are ALLOWED versus not allowed and by the piste enclosure as defined in the World Cup handbook. The list for items not allowed can get lengthy over time, so we should define what is ALLOWED per the FIE specifications.

Opinion of the PCM Commission: The PCM Commission understands the need to keep the Piste Enclosure clear and to preserve safe working conditions for referees. However, the rule should include a formal process for requesting and granting exemptions. This would allow the FIE or the event organiser to authorise recording equipment for an official broadcaster or a major media outlet wishing to promote the event by following a particular athlete or team, or by covering the event as a whole. Any exemption should be subject to strict safety and operational conditions, ensuring that the equipment does not obstruct the referees, interfere with the competition or create any risk for participants. Without such a process, the FIE could unnecessarily deprive an event of valuable media exposure and promotional opportunities.

Opinion of the Athletes Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Coaches Council: In favour, but with addition, during table of 64.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Rules Commission.

Proposal 28

Presented by: Refereeing Commission

Article: t.71

Motivation: To correct penalties for offences with clothing and equipment which does not conform with the Rules. For example, missing a control mark is a 2nd group, missing logo is elimination from the competition and not correct size is a 1st group of penalties as well as to make clear what should happen after 5 minutes if a fencer has no regular equipment.

t.71

If a fencer appears on the piste:

- with only one regulation weapon (cf. t.114, 115); or
- with only one regulation bodywire; or
- with only one regulation mask wire, or
- with a weapon or a bodywire 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 ~~s 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; ~~otherwise, the fencer will be excluded from the competition.~~

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: In favour

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the SEMI Commission: Approve

Opinion of the Athletes Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Coaches Council: Not in favour

Fencer shall not be excluded from the competition solely because replacement equipment cannot reasonably be obtained at the venue, provided that the equipment deficiency does not compromise safety. Where the Organiser does not provide access to an equipment supplier or repair service, the fencer shall be permitted to continue the competition with the available equipment after the appropriate penalty has been applied, except in cases involving safety requirements.

Where replacement clothing is obtained during the competition and the required name or other markings cannot immediately be applied, the fencer shall be permitted to compete in that clothing until the end of the current round. The required markings must be added before the next round of the competition. If no reasonable facility exists at the venue to apply such markings, the Referee shall allow the fencer to continue without them.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees to the proposal. Authorizing fencers to compete with equipment which is not in conformity with the Rules could be detrimental to the fencers (the fencer concerned and his/her opponent) and could also cause risks.

Proposal 29

Presented by: Rules Commission

Article: t.71

Motivation: To delete the explanation in the brackets in article t.71 because it creates confusion in the interpretation of the rules

t.71

If a fencer appears on the piste:

~~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.~~

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: Not in favour

Opinion of the Rules Commission: Withdraw Proposal 29 in support of Proposal 28.

Opinion of the SEMI Commission: Approve

Opinion of the Coaches Council: In favour

Proposal 30

Presented by: Refereeing Commission

Article: t.72

Motivation: The fencer should not be penalized if the condition of the equipment changed during the bout in case a fencer does not notice this because he was focused on the next action.

t.72

When during a bout an irregularity is found in the equipment which could be caused by conditions **during** the bout:

Examples:

- conductive jacket with holes in which hits are registered as non-valid,
- weapon or bodywire no longer functioning,
- pressure of the spring in the point too weak,
- the travel in the point no longer regulation,
- a curve of the blade exceeds that permitted (cf. m.8.6, m.16.2, m.23.4)
- presents himself on guard and ready to fence, the mask is not securely held on his head by the 2nd security device.

the Referee will apply neither warning nor penalty and any hit scored with the equipment which has become defective will be awarded.

~~However, even during the course of a bout, any fencer whose weapon, at the moment he presents himself on guard and ready to fence, has a curve of the blade which exceeds that permitted (cf. m.8.6, m.16.2, m.23.4) commits an offence in the first group and will be penalised in accordance with Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170.~~

~~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.~~

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: In favour

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the SEMI Commission: Approve

Opinion of the Athletes Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Coaches Council: Not in favour

The wording of this proposal is not sufficiently clear. We recommend requesting clarification from the Rules Committee before considering its adoption.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees to the proposal.

Proposal 31

Presented by: Rules Commission

Article: t.73

Motivation: Update t.73 for consistency with penalty chart and proper guidance. Article t.73.1 specifies penalties for offenses a-c and e-g but not for t.73.1.d (included in the penalty chart as a group 4 penalty).

t.73

1 g) is equipped with electronic communication equipment permitting a person off the piste to communicate with the fencer during the bout;

then, in cases c), d), e), f) and g) above, the Referee must immediately confiscate the equipment (weapon, bodywire, if necessary conductive jacket, mask, protective under-plastron, breeches, etc.), and have it examined by the expert on duty.

2 After having obtained the opinion of the expert (a member of the SEMI Commission at the fencing events at the Olympic Games and at World Championships), who has established the facts (cf.

m.33ss), the Referee will apply the following sanctions, without prejudice to the application of Article t.137.2/4;

- in cases c), d), e), f) and g) the Referee will penalise him as specified for offences of the 4th group (cf. Articles t.158-162, t.169, t.170).

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: In favour

Opinion of the SEMI Commission: please see revision if SEMI Commission member is not available

2 After having obtained the opinion of the expert (a member of the SEMI ~~Commission Committee~~ when available, otherwise the Event Supervisor ~~at the fencing events at the Olympic Games and at World Championships~~), who has established the facts (cf. m.33ss), the Referee will apply the following sanctions, without prejudice to the application of Article t.137.2/4;

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees to the proposal and SEMI revision. In article t.73.2, replace SEMI Committee by SEMI Commission (in English).

Proposal 32

Presented by: Rules Commission

Article: t.124

Motivation: The current P-card rule has not had a positive effect on fencers' behavior on the piste, particularly in épée. One minute is too long to wait before sanctioning passivity with a P-card, and it does not encourage fencers to be more offensive or to engage more actively in the bout.

In other combat sports, such as judo, if an athlete refuses to engage for 20 to 30 seconds, they are penalized with a yellow card. This rule creates a more dynamic rhythm and forces competitors to take initiative.

Therefore, reducing the passivity time to 30 seconds could encourage fencers to adopt a more offensive attitude and engage more quickly in the bout. **The P-card should be use starting with the pools.**

(Non-combativity)

t.124

Unwillingness to fight (Non-combativity)

There is unwillingness to fight when there is ~~one minute~~ 30 seconds 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 b) below.

- a) When, for the first time, there is ~~one-minute~~ 30 Seconds 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~~ 30 Seconds of unwillingness to fight, ~~the Referee sanctions both fencers with~~ a P-red 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, followed by a P-Red card.~~ The P-Black card is awarded as described in 2.-e b) below.

- a) When, for the first time, there is ~~one-minute~~ 30 Seconds 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~~ 30 Seconds of unwillingness to fight, ~~the Referee sanctions both teams with~~ a P-red 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 4-4 in pool bouts or at 14-14 in direct elimination bouts 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~~ P-Red card.

- d) The ~~minute~~ **30 Seconds** 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.

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: in favour to start non-combativity from pools,
not in favour for 30 sec.

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour with the modification in **green**, in case Proposal 3 will be approved by the Congress (2 winning set formula for team event)

Proposal 32 -a

(Non-combativity)

t.124

Unwillingness to fight (Non-combativity)

There is unwillingness to fight when there is ~~one-minute~~ **30 seconds** 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-red Cards are awarded to both fencers simultaneously. The P-Black card is awarded as described in 1 b) below.

a) When, for the first time, there is ~~one-minute~~ **30 seconds** of unwillingness to fight, the Referee sanctions both fencers with a P red card.

b) When, for the second time, there is ~~one-minute~~ **30 seconds** 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-Red cards are awarded to the two teams simultaneously. The P-Black card is awarded as described in 2. b) below.

a) When, for the first time, there is ~~one minute~~ 30 seconds of unwillingness to fight, the Referee sanctions both teams with a P red card.

b) When, for the second time, there is ~~one minute~~ 30 seconds 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-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 (red or black) may be awarded in individual competitions at 14-14 or in team matches at 44-44.

No P-card (red or black) may be awarded in individual competitions at 14-14 or in team matches at 14-14. (Applicable as a test for juniors from season 2027-2028).

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-Red card.

d) The ~~minute~~ 30 seconds 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-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.

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour with the modification in green.

Proposal 32 -b

(Non-combativity)

t.124

Unwillingness to fight (Non-combativity)

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-red Cards are awarded to both fencers simultaneously. The P-Black card is awarded as described in 1 b) below.

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

b) When, for the 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.

In pools, the fencer who receives a P-Black card will lose the bout and continue the competition.

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-Red cards are awarded to the two teams simultaneously. The P-Black card is awarded as described in 2. b) below.

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

b) When, for the 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-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 (red or black) may be awarded in individual competitions at **4-4 in pool bouts or at 14-14 in direct elimination bouts** 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-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-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.

Opinion of the PCM Commission: The PCM Commission is challenging this proposal because it is likely to create a perverse tactical incentive, particularly in épée, but also in foil. When the scores are level, the higher-seeded fencer knows that, if the second period of non-combativity is reached, the lower-seeded opponent will receive a P-Black card and lose the bout. The higher-seeded fencer therefore has no incentive to take risks, create actions or initiate attacks, either from the beginning of the bout or whenever the score becomes level again.

The proposed 30-second period is too short, particularly in épée, where constructing an action, assessing distance and preparing an attack may require more time. The higher-seeded fencer could rationally adopt a defensive strategy and wait, while the lower-seeded opponent would be forced to attack and accept all the associated risks.

Instead of encouraging both fencers to be more active, this rule would assign them stereotyped roles from the outset: the higher-seeded fencer would defend, while the opponent would be forced to attack. This would reduce tactical freedom and creativity, make bouts more predictable and one-sided, and could produce repetitive and sanitised fencing with far less appeal for spectators, broadcasters and the media. A rule intended to combat passivity would therefore risk rewarding passive behaviour and undermining the objective of making fencing more dynamic and attractive.

For these reasons, both the reduction of the non-combativity period to 30 seconds and the use of initial seeding to determine the recipient of the P-Black card when the scores are level should be reconsidered.

Opinion of the Athletes Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Coaches Council: Not in favour

Opinion of the Executive Committee:

Proposal 32.a: The duration (1 minute, 30 seconds or another duration) should be the subject of further discussion and testing. The decision must therefore be deferred.

Proposal 32.b: The Executive Committee agrees to the rules being applied from the pools onwards and therefore to the following amendments:

1 Individual events – Pools and dDirection elimination

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.

In pools, the fencer who receives a P-Black card will lose the bout and continue the competition.

3 In both individual and team competitions

a) The 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 (red or black) may be awarded in individual competitions at 4-4 in pool bouts or at 14-14 in direct elimination bouts or in team matches at 44-44.

Proposal 33

Presented by: Rules Commission

Article: t.127

Motivation: Update t.127 with gender neutral language to better reflect our athletes. Gendered language that excludes female athletes can easily be updated to be inclusive

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~~ Fencer X won against ~~Mister~~ Fencer Y with the following score...'

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: In favour

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour with the modifications in green.

t.127

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

Opinion of the Athletes Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Coaches Council: In favour

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Rules Commission.

Proposal 34

Presented by: Refereeing Commission

Article: t.128

Motivation: To stop giving hits away that has been common action in recent seasons and to avoid the awarding a black card for it as required in t.128 but penalize with a less serious penalty.

Personal effort

t.128

Competitors must fence to their utmost ability in a sportsmanlike manner until the end of the competition in order to obtain the best possible classification, without giving away hits or seeking to be favoured by being given hits by anyone (~~cf. t.158-162, t.169, t.170~~). ~~Any infringement will be sanctioned for the offences of the 4th group.~~

1 A hit giving away to the opponent should not be awarded and the fencer who do so should be penalised for the offences of the 1st group (cf. t.165, t.170);

2 Profit from a fraudulent agreement with his opponent to change a result of the bout or team match will be sanctioned for the offences of the 4th group (cf. t.169, t.170).

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: In favour

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour with the modifications in green.

t.128

Competitors must fence to their utmost ability in a sportsmanlike manner until the end of the competition in order to obtain the best possible classification, without giving away hits or seeking to be favoured by being given hits by anyone (~~cf. t.158-162, t.169, t.170~~). ~~Any infringement will be sanctioned for the offences of the 4th group.~~

1 A hit intentionally given giving away to the opponent shall should not be awarded, and the fencer who commits such an action shall do so should be penalised for the an offences of the 1st group (cf. t.165, t.170);

2 Any fencer who Pprofits from a fraudulent agreement with his their opponent to alter the to change a the result of the a bout or team match shall will be sanctioned for the an offences of the 4th group (cf. t.149, t.169, t.170).

Opinion of the Athletes Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Coaches Council: In favour

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Rules Commission.

Proposal 35

Presented by: Refereeing Commission

Article: t.132

Motivation: During the team match nobody should enter the Piste Enclosure as well as to leave the Team Enclosure without the Referee's permission.

t.132

2 During team competitions, no one has the right to enter the Piste Enclosure or leave the Team Enclosure without the Referee's permission. In the case of such an offence, the Referee will penalise the offending team as provided for in Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170. A warning imposed on a team is valid for the complete team match. Should a fencer, within the same match, commit another offence from the First Group, the Referee will penalise him on each occasion with a Red Card.

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: In favour

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour with the modifications in green.

t.132

2 During a team match competitions, no one has the right to enter or leave the Piste Enclosure without the Referee's permission. In the case of such an offence, the Referee will penalise the offending team as provided for in Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170. A warning imposed on a team is valid for the complete team match. Should a fencer, within the same match, commit another offence from the First Group, the Referee will penalise him on each occasion with a Red Card.

Opinion of the Athletes Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Coaches Council: Not in favour

Explanation: During a team match, the coach may need to provide tactical instructions to the next fencer before they enter the piste, warm up or prepare a substitute fencer, assist a fencer with weapon or equipment adjustments, or allow the next fencer to warm up before their bout. Restricting all team members and coaches to remaining seated inside the Team Enclosure throughout the match is impractical and would negatively affect the quality of coaching and competition.

Such a restriction is not common practice in team sports and serves no clear sporting or safety purpose. The Referee already has sufficient authority to control the competition area and deal with any behaviour that interferes with the orderly conduct of the match.

Additional consideration: The proposal would also have a negative impact on television coverage and the presentation of the sport. Modern sports broadcasting aims to show the interaction between coaches and athletes, tactical discussions, emotional reactions, and the preparation of the next competitor. These moments help viewers understand the strategy of the match and create greater engagement. Requiring coaches and team members to remain seated in the Team Enclosure throughout the match would reduce these valuable visual elements and make the broadcast less dynamic and less appealing to spectators.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal as revised by the Rules Commission.

Proposal 36

Presented by: Rules Commission

Article: t.150

Motivation: Update t.150 by striking the words “failure to appear on the strip as required” and adding the specific rules which “weapons not in accordance with the rules” results in a Group 4 penalty. Article t.150 lists “failure to appear on the strip as required” as a reason of exclusion from the competition. This is inconsistent with t.118 and t.199 (and the penalty chart), which specify elimination as the penalty for failing to present oneself on strip when required. This matters for whether the fencer/team retains placement or is removed from the final rankings. The reference to “weapons not in accordance with the Rules” is problematic unless clarified to be considered to cover only issues related to t.73.1.c-f.

t.150

1 Exclusion from a competition may also be imposed for a disciplinary offence (~~failure to appear on the piste as required,~~ weapons not in accordance with the rules (t.73.1.c-f), reprehensible attitude towards an official, etc.).

2 The consequences of such exclusion for the competitor are the same as those described in Article t.149 above.

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: In favour

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 37

Presented by: Refereeing Commission

Article: t.170

Motivation: Irrelevant article numbers in 1.1 and in 1.8 - **t.73.1.a** belongs to the 2nd group of penalties. **t.72** should be no penalty (proposal 32)

t.170 1.1) 1.8)

Offences and penalties

	1st group	1st offence	2nd offence	3rd offence and subseq.
1.1	Leaving piste without permission ~~t.20.0~~ t.120			
1.2	Corps à corps to avoid being hit *	t.25.2		
1.3	Turning back on opponent *	t.27.2		
1.4	Covering/substitution of valid target *	t.29.2, t.30.1, t.79, t.97		
1.5	Touching/taking hold of electrical equipment *	t.29.3		
1.6	Crossing lateral boundary of the piste to avoid being hit *	t.35.3		
1.7	Interruption of bout without valid reason	t.43.2		
1.8	Clothing/equipment not conforming. Curve of blade exceeding that permitted. Absence of regulation/spare weapon or bodywire	t.71, t.72, ~~t.70.1.a~~ , t.117		

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: In favour

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 38

Presented by: Refereeing Commission

Article: t.170

Motivation: The offences of the same article t.121.2 and of the same group should not be separate in the table.

t.170 1.15) 1.16)

Offences and penalties

1.15	~~Jostling, disorderly fencing~~ * ; taking off mask before the Referee calls 'Halt!'; dressing or undressing on the piste	t.116, ~~t.121.2~~ , t.125			
1.16	Irregular movements on the piste *; hits made with violence *; ~~Jostling, disorderly fencing~~ *; Intentional fall to avoid the hit *	t.121.2			

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: In favour

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 39

Presented by: Refereeing Commission

Article: t.170

Motivation: The offences of the same article t.121 in the same group should not be separate in the table.

3.6 moves to 3.2

t.170 3.2) 3.6)

Offences and penalties

3rd group			1st time	2nd time
3.1	Fencer disturbing order when on piste. In the most serious cases, the Referee may award a black card immediately	t.108.2, t.137.2	RED	BLACK
3.2	Dishonest fencing . ~~Anti-sporting behaviour~~ *	t.121	RED	
3.3	Offence against Publicity Code	Publicity Code		
3.4	Any person not on piste disturbing good order ; smoking in the competition halls (including with electronic cigarettes). In the most serious cases, the Referee may award a black card immediately	t.109, t.110, t.111, t.133, t.137.3/4, t.168	YELLOW	BLACK
3.5	Warming up or training without wearing fencing clothing or equipment that conforms to the FIE regulations.	t.20.2		
~~3.6~~	~~Anti-sporting behaviour~~	~~t.121.2~~	RED	

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: In favour

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposals for the 2026 Congress

Modifications of the Material Rules

The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.

Proposal 40

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Structural Proposal: Adoption of the Two-Book Model for the FIE Material Rules

Motivation: The SEMI Commission proposes that the Material Rules (the “M Book”) be separated into:

- (1) a Material Rules Book (Book M) containing all competition-side rules, and
- (2) a Materials Homologation Handbook (Book MH) containing technical specifications, test methods, and homologation procedures for manufacturers, suppliers, and testing laboratories.

The Handbook is a highly technical document. Its content currently resides in Annexe A and Annexe B, intermingled with competition rules, making both harder to use. Several test methods in the current annexes are incomplete or missing.

The SEMI Commission, consistent with its mandate under FIE Statutes Article 6.5.4(e) to “lay down the testing procedure for such equipment,” needs flexibility to develop and update these procedures in a timely manner to stay updated on safety and innovative technologies.

Congress continues to retain full authority over all safety standards and competition rules under FIE Statutes Article 3.2.3, the Congress “determines the modifications to be made to the Statutes, the Rules for the competitions”. The Executive Committee continues to maintain institutional oversight and finally, the Handbook is still fully binding as Book M explicitly requires compliance with the Handbook.

This reorganization:

- 1. Separates the M Book into two documents with distinct audiences and governance pathways
- 2. Preserves all existing rules, safety standards, and homologation obligations without substantive change
- 3. Delegates technical testing procedures to the SEMI Commission and Executive Committee, consistent with FIE Statutes Article 6.5.4
- 4. Supports reorganisation of scattered information into clear topics and areas and focuses the content to key stakeholders (competition-side vs. testing/homologation).
- 5. Enables the SEMI Commission to fill gaps in current test methods and update procedures as technology evolves
- 6. Aligns FIE practice with the standard approach used by major international sports federations.

Proposed Resolution

The SEMI Commission requests that Congress approves the following:

1. That the Material Rules is restructured into: (a) Book M (competition-side rules, amended by Congress) and (b) Book MH (technical specifications, adopted by the Executive Committee on the SEMI Commission's proposal).
2. That the SEMI Commission is authorised to update technical procedures in Book MH, provided safety thresholds in Book M are maintained.
3. That compliance with Book MH is mandatory for all manufacturers, suppliers, and laboratories seeking FIE homologation.
4. That Annexe A and Annexe B are removed from the Material Rules, as their content is incorporated into Book M (Chapter 6) and Book MH.
5. That all changes to Book MH follow transparent versioning with communication to federations and manufacturers.

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: In favour

Opinion of the SEMI Commission: Approve

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 41

Presented by: SEMI Commission

NEW Materials Rule

Motivation:

The proposed restructuring of the Material Rules does change the substance of the rules; it reorganizes them to be clearer, more precise, and easier to use for referees, weapons control, and federations.

What Does NOT Change

1. Technical requirements
2. Safety standards
3. Governance
4. Homologation requirements

The comparison tables will be used as a reference document. Every article and requirement from the 2025 Material Rules has been carried over and is traceable: either into the new Material Rules Book or into the new Materials Homologation Handbook, with explicit mappings for legal and rules verification.

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: In favour

Opinion of the SEMI Commission: Approved.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposal 42

Presented by: SEMI Commission

NEW Materials homologation handbook

Motivation:

This handbook contains the technical specifications, test methods, laboratory procedures, and manufacturing standards necessary for the homologation of fencing equipment and materials used in FIE competitions.

This handbook is a companion document to the **Materials Rules (Book M)**, which governs competition-side obligations. This handbook focuses exclusively on manufacturer-side requirements, test procedures, and homologation processes.

Key Principles:

- Materials Rules Book → What is allowed in the field of play (referee/fencer focused)
- Materials Homologation Handbook → Equipment requirements, how it is tested and certified (manufacturer/laboratory focused)

The Materials Homologation Handbook will follow a controlled SEMI process, with transparent versioning and communication to federations and manufacturers, addressing past concerns about changes not being clearly communicated.

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: In favour

Opinion of the SEMI Commission: Approve

Addition to Motivation: SEMI can update technical test procedures as materials science evolves with final governance is executed by the Executive Committee.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.

Proposals 43 until 117

Presented by: SEMI Commission

75 proposals below for the FIE Material Rules.

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the SEMI Commission: Approved.

Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: IN FAVOUR but with following modifications

- Avoid repetitions “Materials Homologation Handbook” is mentioned in book 34 times. About Material Specifications for jacket, under-plastron and breeches only once in general part would be recommended.

be made entirely of cloth and seam able to resist a pressure of 800 Newtons.

- In general part use for all clothing and equipment and not for a single piece

- m.30 Conductive Jacket Requirements

1. Additional Requirements Foil

2. Correct size should be added as in t.77

The valid 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.

It also includes the part of the bib beneath a horizontal line 1.5 - 2 cm below the chin which, in any case, may not be lower than the line of the shoulders.

2. Additional Requirements Sabre – remove irrelevant information, as for sabre is using only conductive jacket with sleeves

3. ~~If the conductive jacket has sleeves, they~~ Sleeves must reach to the middle of the hand when the sword arm is extended, and the hand is in the position of the sixte parry

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with proposals below from 43 to 117.

Proposal 43

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.1

Motivation: The current Article m.1 “Characteristics Common to All Weapons” provides only a brief enumeration of weapon types, a general conformity statement, and a general safety prohibition, without establishing scope, definitions, or compliance obligations for the Book. The restructured Article m.1 “General Provisions” introduces a formal framework that was previously absent, while drawing on principles from old m.1.1 (weapon types), old m.1.2 (conformity requirement), and old m.37 (fencer responsibility and weapons control obligations).

This reorganization:

1. Establishes a clear scope and application statement for the entire Material Rules Book
2. Provides formal definitions (Weapon, Equipment, Tip, Earth circuit, Official Safety Documents, Competition) that were previously undefined or implied across multiple articles

3. Creates an explicit mandatory Weapons Control compliance obligation
4. Sets a foundation of precedence rules for conflict resolution between this Book and other FIE documents
5. Maintains all existing principles without substantive change to technical requirements

PART 1. FENCERS' WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT

CHAPTER 1. WEAPONS Chapter 1: Global Requirements

CHARACTERISTICS COMMON TO ALL WEAPONS

m.1. General Provisions

1. Scope ~~There are three types of weapon: foil, épée and sabre.~~

This Book sets out the material and safety requirements applicable to all weapons and equipment used in fencing.

2. Application, Amendment, and Precedence ~~All weapons are authorised providing only that they conform to these regulations and to the safety standards which are annexed.~~

1. This Book must apply to all competitions organized, sanctioned, or recognized by the FIE.
2. In case of conflict concerning material and safety requirements, the provisions of this Book and the official safety documents must prevail.
3. SEMI Commission reserves the right to modify or supplement the technical requirements and handbooks whenever developments in technology, experience, or laboratory testing allow improvements in safety or performance.
4. Any such modifications must be communicated to member federations and manufacturers through official FIE channels and procedures.

3. Definitions ~~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.~~

1. Weapon must mean a foil, épée, or sabre conforming to this Book.
2. Equipment must mean components forming part of or attached to a weapon, including but not limited to clothing, protective gear, or device worn or used by a fencer or referee.
3. Official Safety Documents must mean documents issued by the FIE relating to safety standards, notices or safety directives through its official channels.
4. Competition must mean any FIE competition.
5. Tip must mean the forward extremity of the blade, including the electrical tip assembly on foil and épée and the striking end of the blade on sabre.
6. Earth circuit must also mean ground circuit.

4. Mandatory Weapons Control Compliance

1. All weapons and equipment used in competition must comply with this Book.
2. Weapons and equipment used in competition must be subject to official Weapons Control procedures as set out in Chapter 5.

Proposal 44

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.2

Motivation: The current Article m.2 “General description” provides component descriptions for all weapons (blade, handle, guard). The restructured Article m.2 “General Technical Requirements” replaces this with overarching technical provisions. Old m.2 component descriptions are redistributed to new m.3 “General Construction of Weapons.” The new sub-sections draw content from other old articles: “Types of Weapons” repurposes old m.1.1 (weapon type enumeration); “Conformity Requirement” expands old m.1.2 (conformity statement) into a formal compliance framework; “General Safety Principle” expands old m.1.3 (safety prohibition) from “should not injure” to “must not foreseeably cause injury.” “Prohibition of Circumvention” and “Functional Integrity” are entirely new provisions with no prior equivalent.

This reorganization:

1. Redistributes old m.2 component descriptions to new m.3
2. Moves weapon type enumeration (from old m.1.1) into a dedicated sub-section
3. Establishes an explicit conformity requirement with a non-use rule (expanding old m.1.2)
4. Modernizes the safety principle (expanding old m.1.3)
5. Adds new anti-circumvention and functional integrity provisions

General description

m.2. General Technical Requirements

1. Types of Weapons ~~All weapons are composed of the following parts.~~

There are three types of weapon: Foil, Épée, Sabre.

2. Conformity Requirement ~~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.~~

1. A weapon must conform in all respects to the material, construction, and dimensional requirements set out in this Book.
2. A weapon that does not conform must not be used in competition.
3. Only members of the SEMI Commission or the Directoire Technique can require verification of conformity to the Book and to homologation requirements in Chapter 6.

3. General Safety Principle ~~2. A handle within which the tang of the blade is fixed, 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).~~

1. A weapon must be constructed and maintained so that it does not intentionally or foreseeably cause injury beyond valid fencing actions.
2. Sharpening of the point or edges, grinding, filing, heating, or other methods that could create a cutting, slicing, or otherwise dangerous surface, are forbidden.

4. Prohibition of Circumvention ~~3. A metal guard fixed (with the convex face towards the front) between the blade and the handle, serving to protect the sword hand. For foil and épée, the guard must contain a padding or cushion (cf. m.5/2) to reduce the effect of blows. It will also contain a socket to which the bodywire can be connected.~~

No component or modification must be used to circumvent the intent or effect of these Rules.

5. Functional Integrity

A weapon must remain structurally sound and functionally reliable under normal competitive use.

Proposal 45

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.3

Motivation: The current Article m.3 “Dimensions” defines measurement planes (A–E), distances, and blade-straightening rules for measurement. The restructured Article m.3 “General Construction of Weapons” replaces this with comprehensive construction provisions. Old m.3 measurement content is redistributed to new m.4 “Weapon Measurements and Dimensions.” The new sub-sections draw content from multiple old articles: “Components of a Weapon” repurposes old m.2 (blade, handle, guard enumeration); “Blade — General Construction” and “Blade — Material Requirements” draw from old m.2.1 (blade description and maraging steel requirement); “Blade — Surface Condition” repurposes old m.1.3 (blade treatment prohibition); “Guard” sub-sections draw from old m.5 (guard shape, surface, padding); “Handle” sub-sections draw from old m.4 (handle lengths, gauge, restrictions, orthopaedic conditions); “Tang — General Requirements” and “Socket Assembly” are entirely new provisions.

This reorganization:

- 1.. Redistributes old m.3 dimension content to new m.4
2. Consolidates weapon component descriptions from old m.2, m.4, and m.5 into one construction article

3. Adds detailed tang requirements previously absent
4. Creates discrete sub-sections for guard, handle, and socket assembly
5. Maintains all existing technical values while adding structural clarity

Dimensions Chapter 2: Weapons

Part 1: All Weapon Parameters

m.3. General Construction of Weapons

~~Each weapon has its particular design and measurements.~~

~~1. The length of the blade includes the button and everything which is added in front of the convex surface of the guard whether or not it is fixed to the latter.~~

1. Components of a Weapon

A weapon must be composed of the following components:

1. Blade;
2. Tang;
3. Guard;
4. Handle;
5. Socket.

2. Blade — General Construction ~~2. The total length of the weapon and its various parts corresponds to the distances between lines (planes) drawn parallel to each other and perpendicular to the axis of the blade. These lines are situated: a. A at the forward extremity of the weapon; b. B at the point where the blade leaves the front, convex, surface of the guard; c. C at the back of the aforesaid guard; d. D between the grip and the pommel; e. E at the rear extremity of the handle.~~

1. The blade must be constructed of flexible steel.
2. The blade must bend under normal fencing actions without breaking.

3. Blade — Material Requirements ~~3. The total length of the weapon is the distance between lines A and E; the length of the blade that between A and B; the length of the handle that between B and E; and the depth of the guard that between B and C.~~

For all three weapons, blades must be manufactured from maraging steel.

4. Blade — Surface Condition ~~4. The maximum total length of the weapon must be less than the greatest permissible length for the blade and the handle added together. These two latter lengths must, therefore, complement each other to arrive at the total length of the weapon.~~

The blade must not be sharpened, ground, heated, or otherwise treated in a manner that creates a hazardous surface.

5. Tang — General Requirements ~~5. In order to measure either the total length of the weapon or the length of the blade, it is essential that the latter should be without any curve. When measurements are being made, the blade should therefore be held straight on a flat surface.~~

1. The tang must form an integral continuation of the blade and must be manufactured from the same steel as the blade.
2. The tang must be designed and manufactured so that it maintains the structural integrity of the blade–handle assembly under normal competitive use.
3. Any transitions between the blade portion and the tang must be free of cracks or other defects.
4. The tang must be securely fixed within the handle so that it cannot loosen or rotate under normal competitive use.
5. No component, treatment, or modification of the tang may be used to circumvent the intent or effect of these Rules.

6. Guard — General Requirements ~~6. Only the pommel or the locking nut may be placed between lines D and E.~~

1. The guard must protect the hand and wrist without creating undue risk.
2. Material must conform with the requirements in the Homologation Handbook.

7. Guard — External Surface

1. The guard must be in a convex shape.
2. The external surface must be smooth.
3. The guard finish must not produce a distracting glare.
4. The guard must not include features that catch or hold the opponent's point.
5. The guard must not have a raised rim.
6. The guard must not feature any advertising.

8. Guard — Internal Padding

Internal materials must not enlarge the protective area beyond dimensional limits.

9. Guard — Mounting

The guard must be mounted and fixed between the blade and the handle with the convex face toward the front.

10. Handle — General Requirements

1. The handle must be composed of one or several parts.
2. A handle with several parts is divided into a grip and a pommel or a grip and locking nut.
3. A handle must comply with the regulations intended to place the various types of weapons on an equal footing.

11. Handle — Structural Requirements

1. The handle must be securely fixed.
2. The handle must not contain sharp edges.

12. Handle — Design Restrictions

1. The handle for thrusting weapons must have a notch of 2 mm minimum depth.
2. Handles must not contain concealed devices, concealed wires or any component not expressly permitted under these Rules.
3. Throwing-assist mechanisms must not be permitted.
4. The handle design must not circumvent or indirectly avoid the dimensional limits set out in m.4.
5. The handle must not include any device or component that projects beyond the external perimeter of the guard.
6. No portion of the grip must be designed or shaped to increase the protection of the hand or wrist beyond that provided by the guard.

13. Handle — Special Shape (Orthopedic)

If the handle or glove includes any device, attachment, or special (orthopaedic) shape that fixes the position of the hand, the handle must:

1. Fix the hand in one, and only one, position on the handle; and
2. In that position, keep the tip of the fully extended thumb no more than 2 cm from the inner surface of the guard.

14. Socket Assembly — General Requirements

1. Each weapon must contain a socket assembly.
2. The socket assembly must be fixed between the guard and the handle.

Proposal 46

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.4

Motivation: The current Article m.4 “The handle” (old m.4.1–m.4.6) describes handle lengths, gauge requirements, handle type restrictions, throwing prohibition, protection restrictions, and orthopaedic handle conditions. The restructured Article m.4 “Weapon Measurements and Dimensions” replaces this with a consolidated dimensional reference. Old m.4 handle content is redistributed to new m.3 “General Construction of Weapons”: handle lengths (old m.4.1) move to new m.4 “Maximum Handle Length” with all values preserved; handle gauge (old m.4.2) moves to

new m.3 “Handle — Structural Requirements”; handle types (old m.4.3) to new m.3 “Handle — General Requirements”; throwing prohibition (old m.4.4) and protection restriction (old m.4.5) to new m.3 “Handle — Design Restrictions”; orthopaedic conditions (old m.4.6) to new m.3 “Handle — Special Shape.” New m.4 draws its measurement plane and distance content from old m.3 “Dimensions” (planes A–E, distances). “Measurement Procedure” is a new provision referencing Chapter 5 (Weapons Control). This reorganization: 1. Consolidates all dimensional definitions (from old m.3) and handle lengths (from old m.4.1) into one article 2. Redistributes old m.4 handle requirements to new m.3 construction sub-sections 3. Adds an explicit measurement procedure reference to Chapter 5 4. Preserves all dimensional values without change 5. Creates a single reference point for all weapon measurement definitions

~~The handle~~ Chapter 2: Weapons

Part 1: All Weapon Parameters

m.4. Weapon Measurements and Dimensions

1. Measurement Planes ~~1. The maximum length of the handle at foil and épée is 20 cm, measured between lines B and E, and 18 cm, measured between lines B and D. At sabre the maximum length of the handle is 17 cm.~~

1. Measurement planes A through E must define reference points for dimensional compliance.
2. These planes are all parallel to one another and perpendicular to the axis of the blade.
 - a. Plane A at the forward extremity of the weapon.
 - b. Plane B at the point where the blade exits the front convex surface of the guard.
 - c. Plane C at the rear surface of the guard.
 - d. Plane D at the junction between the grip and the pommel.
 - e. Plane E at the rear extremity of the handle.

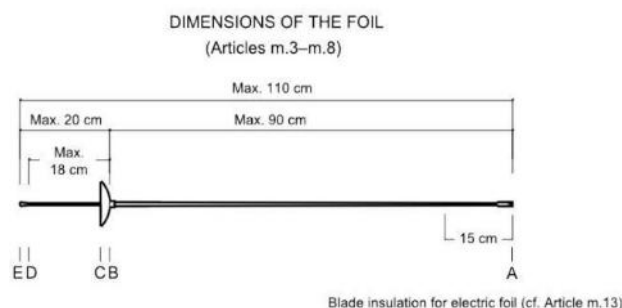


Figure 1: Planes of the weapon

2. Measurement Distances ~~2. The handle must be able to pass through the same gauge as the guard. It must be so made that normally it cannot injure either the user or his opponent.~~

Distances are measured along the axis of the blade between the planes where the blade is straight (perpendicular to the plane of measurement):

1. Total weapon length: the distance between planes A and E.
2. Blade length: the distance between planes A and B.
3. Handle length — with pommel: the distance between planes B and E.
4. Handle length — without pommel: the distance between planes B and rear extremity of the grip.
5. Guard depth: the distance between planes B and C.

3. Measurement Procedure ~~3. All types of handle are allowed providing that they conform to the regulations which have been framed with a view to placing the various types of weapons on the same footing. However, at épée, orthopaedic handles, whether metal or not, may not be covered with leather or any material which could hide wires or switches.~~

Measurement procedures must follow provisions and process set forth in Chapter 5 (see m.57 and other applicable Weapons Control procedures).

4. Maximum Handle Length ~~4. The handle must not include any device which assists the fencer to use it as a throwing weapon~~

1. Foil and Épée — without a separate pommel: Plane B to Plane E = 20 cm.
2. Foil and Épée — with a separate pommel: Plane B to Plane D = 18 cm.
3. Sabre: Plane B to Plane E = 17 cm.

~~5. The handle must not include any device which can increase in any way the protection afforded to the hand or wrist of the fencer by the guard: a cross bar or electric socket which extends beyond the edge of the guard is expressly forbidden.~~

~~6. If the handle (or glove) includes any device or attachment or has a special shape (orthopaedic) which fixes the position of the hand on the handle, the handle must conform to the following conditions:~~

- ~~a. It must determine and fix one position only for the hand on the handle.~~
- ~~b. When the hand occupies this one position on the handle, the extremity of the thumb when completely extended must not be more than 2 cm from the inner surface of the guard.~~

Proposal 47

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.5

Motivation: The current Article m.5 “The guard” (old m.5.1–m.5.5) describes guard surface requirements, padding/wiring provisions, socket attachment systems, electrical resistance limits, and equipment checking requirements applicable across all weapons. The restructured Article m.5 “Foil General Characteristics” replaces this with a single foil-specific nature statement. Old m.5

content is redistributed: guard surface (old m.5.1) moves to new m.3 “Guard — General Requirements”; padding and wiring (old m.5.2) to new m.8 “Foil Guard — Padding” and new m.9 “Foil Electrical System”; socket attachment (old m.5.3) to new m.3 “Socket Assembly — Detachment, Security”; electrical resistance (old m.5.4) to new m.9 “Foil Electrical System — Electrical Resistance”; equipment and checking (old m.5.5) to new m.2 “General Technical Requirements” and new m.3 construction provisions.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a clear foil-specific introduction article
2. Redistributes cross-weapon guard requirements to the general construction article (new m.3)
3. Places foil-specific guard details in new m.8
4. Consolidates electrical provisions in new m.9

~~The guard~~ **Part 2: Foil Specific Requirements**

m.5. Foil General Characteristics

- 1. Nature of the Weapon** ~~1. The convex face of the guard must have a shape and surface which is both smooth and not too shiny. It must be so made that it can neither hold nor catch the opponent's point. It must not have a raised rim.~~

The foil is a thrusting weapon designed to register a valid touch by means of a spring-loaded tip connected to an electrical scoring apparatus.

~~2. a) For foil and épée, inside the guard there must be a cushion (padding) sufficiently wide to protect the electric wires from the fencer's fingers. The padding on the inside of the guard must be less than 2 cm thick and must be arranged in such a way as not to increase the protection which the guard affords the hand.~~

~~b. The connections must be so arranged that it is impossible for the fencer to break or make contacts while fencing.~~

~~c. On foils, the wire must be protected by an insulating sheath.~~

~~d. On épées, the two wires must be protected by two insulating sheaths, one on each wire.~~

~~e. Both the wire and the insulating sheath must go right up to the socket.~~

~~f. In no case may uninsulated wires project beyond the point where they are attached to the socket (cf. m.29, m.31).~~

~~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 bodywire.~~

~~b) It must be possible to check it.~~

~~c) It must have a security device which prevents the bodywire from becoming unplugged during the bout. In the absence of a security device being fitted to the weapon, a security device must be fitted to the plug of the bodywire.~~

~~d) It must ensure the complete connection of the electric wires; it must be impossible for even a momentary break of contact to occur while the plugs are connected.~~

~~e) It must not include any part which allows electrical contact to be made between the plug sockets.~~

~~4. a) The maximum electrical resistance allowed for foil and épée is 2 ohms and for sabre 1 ohm.~~

~~5. a) At foil and épée, only traditional or homologated pointes d'arrêt are accepted.~~

~~b. In order that the registering of hits by the contact of the point on the opponent be correctly registered by the scoring device, the pointes d'arrêt must be clean. The electrical resistance measured in ohms must not exceed the limit of two ohms (m.5.4.a).~~

~~c. The blades and the guards at épée, foil and sabre must be totally of metal. Apart from at sabre where the part of the guard next to the pommel is insulated (insulating sheath), their exteriors must not be covered by any material (plastic or other). The guard may not feature any advertising. This is also the case for the insulated part of the sabre guard.~~

Proposal 48

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.6

Motivation: The current Article m.6 "Weight" (old m.6) contains only the foil total weight limit (500 g). The restructured Article m.6 "Foil Dimensions and Weight" consolidates all foil dimensional and weight limits into a single article. "Maximum Total Length" draws from old m.7 (110 cm total length); "Maximum Blade Length" draws from old m.8.4 (90 cm blade length); "Maximum Weight" expands old m.6 with explicit component definitions and measurement procedure references.

This reorganization:

1. Groups all foil dimension and weight limits in one article
2. Draws total length from old m.7 and blade length from old m.8.4
3. Adds explicit weight measurement definitions
4. References Chapter 5 Weapons Control procedures

Weight

m.6. Foil Dimensions and Weight

- 1. Maximum Total Length** ~~The total weight of the foil ready for use must be less than 500 g.~~

The total length of the foil, measured between plane A and plane E of a straight blade, must not exceed 110 cm (see Figure 2, m.4, and m.57).

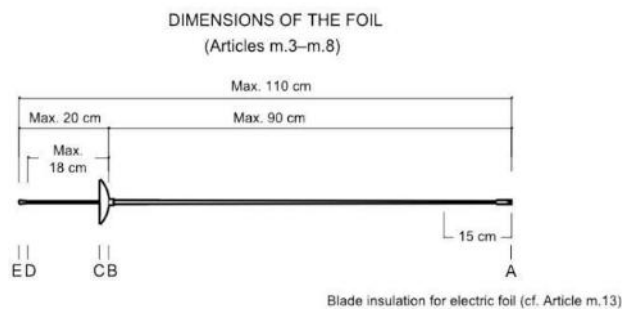


Figure 2: Dimension of the foil

2. Maximum Blade Length

The blade length, measured between plane A and plane B, must not exceed 90 cm (see Figure 2, m.4, and m.57).

3. Maximum Weight

1. For the purposes of Foil, total weight must mean the assembled weapon including the blade, tang, guard, handle, pommel or locking nut, socket, tip assembly, insulation, and internal wiring.
2. The body cord must not be included in the weight measurement.
3. The total weight of the foil must be less than 500g.
4. Weight must be determined in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures (see m.55–m.57).

Proposal 49

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.7

Motivation: The current Article m.7 “Length” (old m.7) contains only the foil maximum total length (110 cm). The restructured Article m.7 “Foil Blade” consolidates all foil blade-specific provisions into one article. “Cross Section” draws from old m.8.1 (rectangular section); “Material” from old m.8.1 (steel/Annexe A reference); “Orientation” from old m.8.3 (widest face horizontal); “Edge Treatment” from old m.8.2 (chamfer requirements); “Flexibility” from old m.8.5 (bend 5.5–9.5 cm); “Curvature” from old m.8.6 (max 1 cm); “Blade Tip” from old m.12.4 (minimum 3.5 mm diameter). This reorganization: 1. Gathers all blade characteristics from old m.8 into a dedicated blade article 2. Moves the total length provision to new m.6 3. Adds blade tip dimensional requirements from old m.12 4. References Weapons Control procedures for verification

Length

m.7. Foil Blade

1. Cross Section ~~1. The maximum total length of the foil is 110 cm.~~

The blade must be rectangular in cross-section.

2. Material

The blade must be manufactured to the material requirements set out in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook (see m.69).

3. Orientation

1. The blade must be mounted with the widest face horizontal.
2. The groove must be positioned uppermost.

4. Edge Treatment

1. The edges of the blade must be chamfered.
2. The chamfer must form an angle of $45^\circ \pm 5^\circ$.
3. The chamfer must measure $0.5 \text{ mm} \pm 0.1 \text{ mm}$ on each side.
4. The edges must be smooth and must not be capable of cutting.

5. Flexibility

1. The blade must demonstrate flexibility corresponding to a bend between 5.5 cm and 9.5 cm.
2. Flexibility must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
 - a. The blade is fixed horizontally at a point 70 cm from the extremity of the button.
 - b. A 200 g weight (tolerance $\pm 1 \text{ g}$) is suspended 3 cm from Plane A.
 - c. The bend of the blade is measured from Plane A between the non-weighted and weighted positions (see Figure 3).

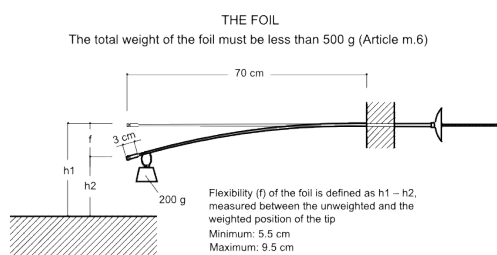


Figure 3: Foil blade flexibility verification

6. Curvature

1. The blade must not exhibit a curvature exceeding 1 cm.
2. The curvature must only be in the vertical plane.
3. The curvature must be near the center of the blade.
4. Curvature must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way (see Figure 4):
 - a. The blade is placed on a flat surface.
 - b. The position of the curve is uppermost.
 - c. The measurement is maximum distance between the flat surface and the blade.
 - d. The curvature must be measured as described above (see m.57 for general measurement rules).

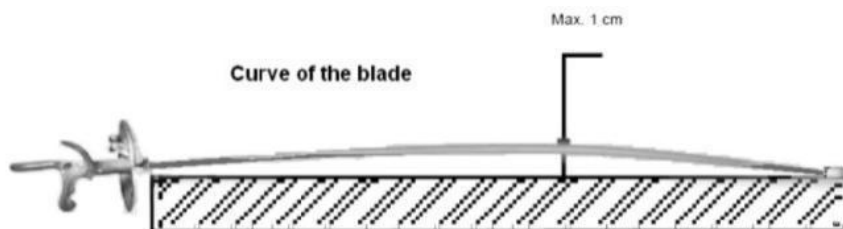


Figure 4: Foil blade curvature

7. Blade Tip

1. The diameter at the end of a bare blade closest to Plane A must not be less than 3.5 mm prior to threading.
2. No wrapping or artificial enlargement of the blade diameter must be permitted.

Proposal 50

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.8

Motivation: The current Article m.8 “The blade” (old m.8.1–m.8.6) describes blade cross-section, edge treatment, mounting orientation, maximum blade length, flexibility, and curvature. The restructured Article m.8 “Foil Guard” covers foil guard diameter, blade position, padding, gauge compliance, and socket assembly. Old m.8 blade content is redistributed: cross-section (old m.8.1) to new m.7 “Foil Blade — Cross Section”; edge treatment (old m.8.2) to new m.7 “Edge Treatment”; mounting (old m.8.3) to new m.7 “Orientation”; blade length (old m.8.4) to new m.6 “Maximum Blade Length”; flexibility (old m.8.5) to new m.7 “Flexibility”; curvature (old m.8.6) to new m.7 “Curvature.”

New m.8 guard content draws from old m.9 (guard gauge and diameter) and old m.5 (padding and socket requirements).

This reorganization:

1. Moves all blade provisions from old m.8 to new m.7
2. Creates a dedicated foil guard article
3. Draws guard content from old m.9 and old m.5
4. Adds socket assembly requirements

~~The blade~~

m.8. Foil Guard

1. **Diameter** ~~1. The blade, which is rectangular in section, must be made of steel complying with the safety standards described in Annexe A to the Rules.~~

The diameter of the guard must not be less than 9.5 cm and must not exceed 12 cm.

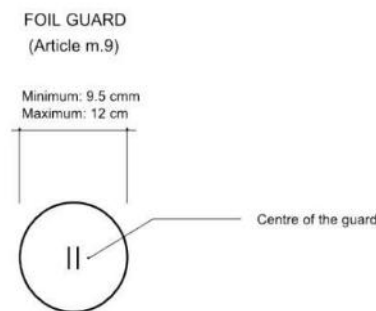


Figure 5: Foil guard

2. **Position of the Blade** ~~2. The edges must be smoothed off so that they cannot cut, and must be chamfered at an angle of 45° (± 5°), 0.5 mm on each side (± 0.1 mm), so that they will neither cut nor become capable of cutting.~~

The blade must pass through the center of the guard.

3. **Padding** ~~3. The blade is mounted with the widest face placed horizontally.~~

1. The interior must contain padding of cushioning material.
2. Padding must not exceed 2 cm in thickness.

4. **Gauge Compliance** ~~4. The maximum length of the blade is 90 cm (cf. m.3).~~

The guard must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:

1. The foil guard must pass through a cylindrical gauge of 12 cm diameter and 15 cm length (see m.4 and m.57 for dimensional checks).
2. The blade must be parallel to the axis of the cylinder.

5. Foil Guard Socket Assembly ~~5. The blade should have a flexibility equivalent to a bend of minimum 5.5 cm and maximum 9.5 cm measured in the following way. a. The blade is fixed horizontally at a point 70 cm from the extremity of the button. b. A 200 g weight (tolerance +/- 1 g) is suspended 3 cm from the extremity of the button. c. The bend of the blade is measured at the extremity of the button between the non-weighted and weighted positions (see Figure 8).~~

1. Inside the guard there must be a socket into which the body wire is plugged.
2. The socket assembly must ensure reliable electrical contact during all fencing actions (see m.36–m.37 for body wire and plug requirements).
3. The socket assembly must be secured to prevent disconnection during the bout.

~~6. The blade should be as straight as possible. Any curve of the blade must be uniform and the maximum bend must in any case be less than one cm; it is only permitted in the vertical plane and must be near the centre of the blade. 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 8).~~

Proposal 51

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.9

Motivation: The current Article m.9 “The guard (cf. m.5)” (old m.9.1–m.9.2) describes the foil guard gauge requirement (12 cm diameter, 15 cm cylinder) and guard diameter limits (9.5–12 cm). The restructured Article m.9 “Foil Electrical System” covers the electrical wire, resistance, and circuit function. Old m.9 guard content moves to new m.8 “Foil Guard — Gauge Compliance” and “Diameter.” New m.9 electrical content draws from old m.10 (electric wire and groove), old m.5.4 (2-ohm resistance limit), and old m.11.6 (earth circuit function).

This reorganization:

1. Moves guard gauge/diameter from old m.9 to new m.8
 2. Creates a dedicated electrical system article for the foil
 3. Consolidates wire, resistance, and circuit provision
 4. Draws from old m.10, m.5.4, and m.11.6
-

~~The guard (cf. m.5)~~

m.9. Foil Electrical System

1. **Electrical Wire** ~~1. The guard must be able to pass through a straight cylindrical gauge having a diameter of 12 cm and a length of 15 cm, the blade being parallel with the axis of the cylinder.~~
 1. The foil must contain a single insulated electrical wire.
 2. The wire must be securely affixed by glue within a groove along the entire length of the blade.
 3. The wire must permanently connect the pointe d'arrêt to the socket.
2. **Electrical Resistance** ~~2. The blade must pass through the centre of the guard. The diameter of the guard must be between 9.5 cm and 12 cm.~~
 1. The total electrical resistance of the foil must not exceed 2 ohms.
 2. Resistance must be verified in accordance with the Weapons Control procedures.
3. **Circuit Function**
 1. When the tip assembly is not depressed, the circuit must be closed.
 2. When the tip assembly is depressed in accordance with this Book, the circuit must be interrupted.
 3. The electrical characteristics of the foil must be compatible with the central judging apparatus (see Chapter 4 and m.43).

Proposal 52

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.10

Motivation: The current Article m.10 "Electric wire" (old m.10) describes only the single electric wire glued in the blade groove connecting the pointe d'arrêt to the socket. The restructured Article m.10 "Foil Tip Assembly" is a comprehensive article covering all tip assembly components, materials, dimensions, mounting, construction, travel, circuit function, and pressure requirements. Content draws from old m.11 (pointe d'arrêt dimensions from old m.11.1–2, pressure from old m.11.3, travel from old m.11.4, mounting from old m.11.5, circuit from old m.11.6) and old m.13.2 (shank diameter). New provisions are added for tip assembly component listing, material requirements, spring construction, and barrel construction.

This reorganization:

1. Moves electric wire from old m.10 to new m.9

2. Creates a comprehensive tip assembly article
3. Draws pointe d'arrêt provisions from old m.11
4. Draws shank provision from old m.13.2
5. Adds new component, material, spring, and barrel provisions

Electric wire

m.10. Foil Tip Assembly

1. Tip Assembly Components ~~1. 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.~~

A tip assembly must consist of:

1. An insulated pointe d'arrêt
2. A shank that is smaller in diameter to the pointe d'arrêt
3. A spring
4. A barrel that is a separate hollow cylindrical body

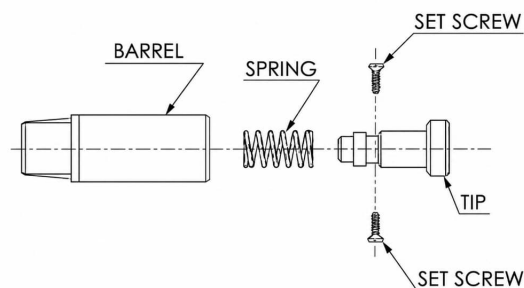


Figure 6: Foil Tip Assembly

2. Tip Assembly Material

1. The components of the tip assembly must be manufactured from materials that:
 - a. Provide sufficient mechanical durability under normal competitive use;
 - b. Maintain consistent electrical performance as required by this Book; and
 - c. Resist corrosion or degradation that could affect safety or electrical function.
2. Material specifications and approved alloys must be defined in the Materials Homologation Handbook.

3. Pointe d'arrêt — Dimensions

1. The pointe d'arrêt must be cylindrical.
2. The front surface of the pointe d'arrêt is flat and perpendicular to its axis.
3. The diameter of the pointe d'arrêt must be between 5.5 mm and 7 mm.

4. Pointe d'arrêt — Edge Dimension

The edge of the pointe d'arrêt must be either:

1. Rounded with a radius of 0.5 mm; or
2. Chamfered at 45° with a width of 0.5 mm.

5. Pointe d'arrêt — Mounting

1. The pointe d'arrêt must be retained within the barrel in at least two places equidistant from each other.
2. Other methods of mounting must be approved by the SEMI Commission.

6. Shank — Construction

1. The shank must be fixed to the pointe d'arrêt.
2. The shank must have a smaller diameter than the insulated head of the pointe d'arrêt.

7. Spring — Construction

1. Springs must be manufactured from materials capable of maintaining their elastic properties under repeated compression during normal competitive use.
2. The spring must be capable of lifting a weight of 500 grams $\pm$ 2 grams (see m.61 for required test weights).

8. Barrel — Construction

1. The barrel must be a length from 7–8 mm.
2. The barrel must have a smooth external surface.

9. Tip Assembly — Travel

1. The total travel of the pointe d'arrêt must not exceed 1 mm.
2. Travel must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures and the checking apparatus requirements (m.61) in the following way:
 - a. Gauge measurement with a tolerance not exceeding $\pm$ 0.05 mm (see m.57 and m.61 for tip travel gauges).

10. Tip Assembly — Circuit Function

1. The pointe d'arrêt must maintain electrical contact with the earth circuit of the foil when not depressed.
2. The circuit must be interrupted when the pointe d'arrêt is depressed.

3. No wrapping, coating, or artificial enlargement of the blade diameter must be permitted.

11. Tip Assembly — Pressure

1. The pressure required on the pointe d'arrêt to interrupt the circuit must exceed 500 grams.
2. Pressure must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
 - a. A weight of 500g $\pm$ 2 g must be lifted by the spring of the tip assembly (see m.61).

Proposal 53

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.11

Motivation: The current Article m.11 “Pointe d'arrêt” (old m.11.1–m.11.6) describes pointe d'arrêt dimensions, cylindrical shape, pressure requirements, travel limits, retention methods, and earth circuit function. The restructured Article m.11 “Foil Blade-Tip Assembly Interface” covers the threaded interface between blade and tip assembly. Old m.11 pointe d'arrêt content moves to new m.10 “Foil Tip Assembly” (dimensions to m.10 sub 3–4; pressure to m.10 sub 11; travel to m.10 sub 9; mounting to m.10 sub 5; circuit to m.10 sub 10). New m.11 interface content draws from old m.12 “Method of affixing the button”: general requirement from old m.12.1; minimum blade diameter from old m.12.4; threaded diameter from old m.12.5; groove dimensions from old m.12.7; barrel portion from old m.12.6; fixing method from old m.12.2–3. “Security of the Tip Assembly” is a new provision.

This reorganization:

1. Moves pointe d'arrêt provisions to new m.10
2. Creates a dedicated blade-tip interface article
3. Draws interface content from old m.12
4. Adds a new security provision

Pointe d'arrêt

m.11. Foil Blade-Tip Assembly Interface

- 1. General Requirement** ~~1. The diameter of the pointe d'arrêt is between 5.5 mm and 7 mm; the diameter of the body of the button including its exterior insulation must not be more than 0.3 mm less than that of the pointe d'arrêt.~~
 1. The tip assembly must be securely fixed to the blade by means of a threaded interface in accordance with the foil weapon.
 2. Only fixing methods expressly permitted by this Book must be allowed.
 3. The interface region is where the barrel is fixed to the blade.
 4. The lighting stroke cannot exceed 1mm

2. Minimum Blade Diameter ~~2. The pointe d'arrêt must be 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°.~~

Prior to threading, the blade must not have a diameter of less than 3.5 mm at any point within the interface region.

3. Threaded Diameter — Blade ~~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.~~

The diameter of the threaded core (opposite to the widest part of the blade) at the edge of the blade must not be less than 2.7 mm (Threading — SI 3.5×0.60).

4. Threaded Portion Length — Blade Groove ~~4. The course or travel of the pointe d'arrêt required to cause the electrical apparatus to register a hit, called the lighting stroke, may be infinitesimal: the total travel of the pointe d'arrêt must not be greater than 1 mm. The gauge used should have a tolerance of a maximum of ± 0.05 mm.~~

1. The width of the groove of the blade at the threaded portion must not exceed 0.5 mm.
2. The depth of the groove of the blade at the threaded portion must not exceed 0.6 mm.
3. Depth of the groove is measured on the diameter of the threaded core.

5. Threaded Portion Length — Barrel ~~5. The pointe d'arrêt must be retained in the button in at least two places equidistant from each other, or by any other method which has been approved by the SEMI Committee of the FIE.~~

1. Only the forward half of this length must be threaded.
2. The remaining half must engage a smooth internal bore within the tip assembly.

6. Fixing Method ~~6. When not depressed the pointe d'arrêt is in contact with the earth circuit of the foil. When a hit is made, this contact must be broken.~~

1. Only metal-to-metal fixing must be permitted.
2. Soldering, brazing, or any heating process that may alter the temper or mechanical properties of the blade is prohibited.
3. Alternative fixing methods may be authorized after approval of the SEMI Commission.
4. The threaded interface must not loosen under normal competitive use.
5. Material wrapped around the surface of the bare blade is prohibited (see m.2 for general safety and circumvention rules).

7. Security of the Tip Assembly

1. The tip assembly must remain securely engaged with the threaded portion of the blade during normal competitive use.
2. If the tip assembly becomes loose, disengaged, or partially unscrewed, the foil must be deemed non-compliant and must not be used until properly repaired.
3. No external clips, locking devices, or additional components may be added outside the defined tip assembly in order to secure the tip.
4. Only components forming part of the approved tip assembly design must be permitted (see m.59–m.60).

Proposal 54

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.12

Motivation: The current Article m.12 “Method of affixing the button” (old m.12.1–m.12.8) describes button base threading, fixing methods, soldering prohibition, minimum blade diameter, thread core diameter, button length and threading specifications, groove dimensions, and SEMI verification authority. The restructured Article m.12 “Foil Insulation” covers insulation coverage and materials. Old m.12 button-affixing content is redistributed to new m.11 “Foil Blade-Tip Assembly Interface”: general threading (old m.12.1) to new m.11 “General Requirement”; fixing method (old m.12.2) and soldering (old m.12.3) to new m.11 “Fixing Method”; blade diameter (old m.12.4) to new m.11 “Minimum Blade Diameter” and new m.7 “Blade Tip”; thread diameter (old m.12.5) to new m.11 “Threaded Diameter”; button length (old m.12.6) to new m.10 “Barrel — Construction” and new m.11 “Threaded Portion Length”; groove (old m.12.7) to new m.11 “Threaded Portion Length — Blade Groove”; verification (old m.12.8) to Chapter 5 Weapons Control. New m.12 insulation content draws from old m.13 “The insulation of the button, the blade and the handle” (old m.13.1 insulation coverage; old m.13.2 shank dimension).

This reorganization:

1. Moves button-affixing provisions to new m.11
2. Creates a dedicated insulation article
3. Draws insulation content from old m.13
4. Redistributes old m.12.8 verification to Chapter 5

Method of affixing the button

m.12. Foil Insulation

1. Insulation Coverage ~~1. The base of the button must be screwed onto the end of the blade, which must be cut and threaded for this purpose respecting the following conditions:~~

1. The cylindrical body of the tip assembly and the blade must be fully covered with insulating material.

2. Insulating material must extend rearward from the edge of the barrel along the blade for a length of 15 cm $\pm$ 1 cm.
3. The insulation must be continuous from the barrel onto the blade, with no uninsulated gap at the junction.

2. Insulation Materials ~~2. Normally, only fixing by metal to metal is allowed. However, fixing by any material of great mechanical strength may be authorised after approval by the SEMI Commission of the FIE.~~

Insulation must consist of adhesive tape, gummed paper, Sellotape, varnish, or plastic material (see m.43).

- ~~3. All methods of soldering or brazing or in general any heating which may affect the temper of the blade are forbidden.~~
- ~~4. The end of the blade before cutting the thread must not have a diameter at any point of less than 3.5 mm, and this without anything being wrapped round it, a process which is strictly forbidden.~~
- ~~5. The diameter of the core of the thread must not be less than 2.7 mm (thread SI 3.5 x 0.60). The threading must be very tight.~~
- ~~6. The part of the blade on which the button is fixed should be of a length of 7–8mm entirely covered by the button. It is recommended that only the half of this length at the extremity of the blade be threaded. For the other half the button will have a smooth surface of 3.5 mm diameter into which it should take some force for the corresponding part of the blade to be introduced.~~
- ~~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.~~
- ~~8. Only the members of the SEMI Committee of the FIE or the Directoire Technique can require the verification of the above points.~~

Proposal 55

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.13

Motivation: The current Article m.13 “The insulation of the button, the blade and the handle” (old m.13.1–m.13.2) describes foil insulation coverage and shank diameter requirements. The restructured Article m.13 “Épée General Characteristics” replaces this with an épée-specific nature statement. Old m.13 insulation content is redistributed: insulation coverage (old m.13.1) to new m.12 “Foil Insulation — Insulation Coverage”; shank dimension (old m.13.2) to new m.10 “Foil Tip Assembly — Shank Construction.”

This reorganization:

1. Creates a clear épée-specific introduction article
2. Redistributes old foil insulation content to new m.12 and m.10

3. Begins the Épée Specific Requirements section (Part 3)

~~The insulation of the button, the blade and the handle~~ Part 3: Épée Specific Requirements

m.13. Épée General Characteristics

- 1. Nature of the Weapon** ~~1. The body of the button and the foil blade for a length of 15 cm +/- 1cm from the button must be entirely covered with insulating material (insulating tape, gummed paper, Sellotape, plastic material or varnish).~~

The épée is a thrusting weapon designed to register a valid touch by means of a spring-loaded tip connected to an electrical scoring apparatus.

- ~~2. The flange of the sleeve which slides in the base of the point and within which is fixed the pointe d'arrêt must be of a smaller diameter than the insulated head of the pointe d'arrêt itself, to obviate an accidental contact being made with the conductive jacket when a hit is made.~~

Proposal 56

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.14

Motivation: The current Article m.14 "Weight" (old m.14) contains only the épée total weight limit (770 g). The restructured Article m.14 "Épée Dimensions and Weight" consolidates all épée dimensional and weight limits. "Maximum Total Length" draws from old m.15 (110 cm); "Maximum Blade Length" from old m.16.3 (90 cm); "Maximum Total Length to Guard Rear" from old m.17.2 (95.5 cm); "Maximum Weight" expands old m.14 with component definitions and measurement procedures.

This reorganization:

1. Groups all épée dimension and weight limits in one article
2. Draws total length from old m.15, blade length from old m.16.3, guard rear length from old m.17.2
3. Adds explicit weight measurement definitions
4. References Chapter 5 Weapons Control procedures

Weight

m.14. Épée Dimensions and Weight

- 1. Maximum Total Length** ~~The total weight of the épée ready for use is less than 770 g.~~

The total length of the épée, measured between plane A and plane E, must not exceed 110 cm (see Figure 7, m.4, and m.57).

2. Maximum Blade Length

The blade length, measured between plane A and plane B of a straight blade, must not exceed 90 cm (see Figure 7, m.4, and m.57).

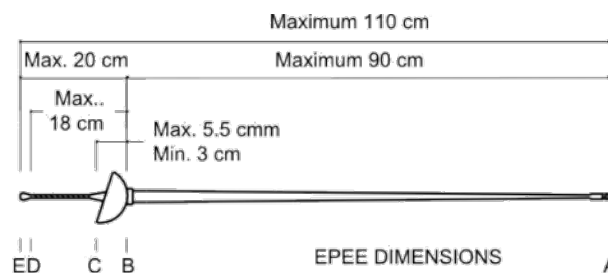


Figure 7: Épée dimensions and planes

3. Maximum Total Length to Guard Rear

The total length between planes A and C must never be greater than 95.5 cm (see Figure 7, m.4, and m.57).

4. Maximum Weight

1. For the purposes of Épée, total weight must mean the assembled weapon including the blade, tang, guard, handle, pommel or locking nut, socket assembly, tip assembly, and internal wiring.
2. The body cord must not be included in the weight measurement.
3. The total weight of the épée ready for use must be less than 770 g (see m.55–m.57).
4. Weight must be determined in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures.

Proposal 57

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.15

Motivation: The current Article m.15 “Length” (old m.15) contains only the épée maximum total length (110 cm). The restructured Article m.15 “Épée Blade” consolidates all blade provisions. “Cross Section” draws from old m.16.1 (triangular section); “Material” from old m.16.1 (steel/Annexe

A); "Orientation" from old m.16.2 (groove uppermost); "Maximum Width" from old m.16.4 (24 mm); "Flexibility" from old m.16.5 (4.5–7 cm); "Curvature" from old m.16.2 (max 1 cm).

This reorganization:

1. Gathers all blade characteristics from old m.16 into a dedicated blade article
2. Moves total length to new m.14
3. Adds measurement verification references
4. References Weapons Control procedures

Length

m.15. **Épée Blade**

1. **Cross Section** ~~The total maximum length of the épée is 110 cm (cf m.3).~~
The blade must be triangular in section without cutting edges.

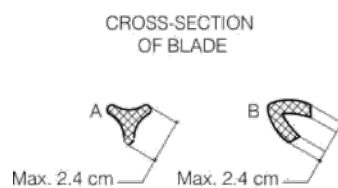


Figure 8: Cross-section of épée blade

2. **Material**

The blade must be manufactured to the material requirements set out in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.

3. **Orientation**

1. The blade must be mounted with the widest face horizontal.
2. The groove must be positioned uppermost.

4. **Maximum Width**

The maximum width of any of the three sides of the blade is 24 mm.

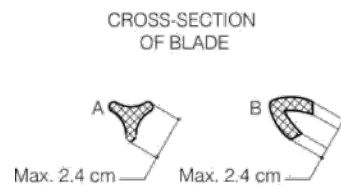


Figure 9: Maximum width of a side of the épée blade

5. Flexibility

1. The blade must demonstrate flexibility corresponding to a bend between 4.5 cm and 7 cm.
2. Flexibility must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
 - a. The blade is fixed horizontally at a point 70 cm from the extremity of the button.
 - b. A 200 g weight (tolerance ± 1 g) is suspended 3 cm from Plane A.
 - c. The bend of the blade is measured from Plane A between the non-weighted and weighted positions (see Figure 10).

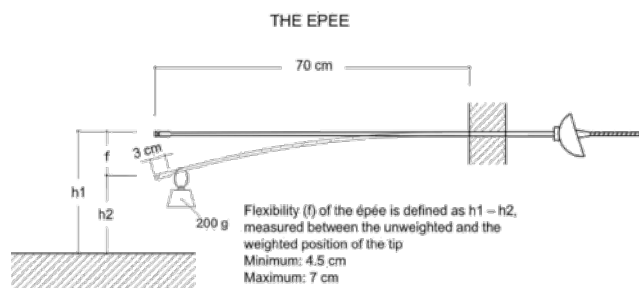


Figure 10: Épée blade flexibility verification

6. Curvature

1. The blade must not exhibit a curvature exceeding 1 cm.
2. The curvature must only be in the vertical plane.
3. The curvature must be near the center of the blade.
4. Curvature must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
 - a. The blade is placed on a flat surface.
 - b. The position of the curve is uppermost.
 - c. The measurement is maximum distance between the flat surface and the blade.

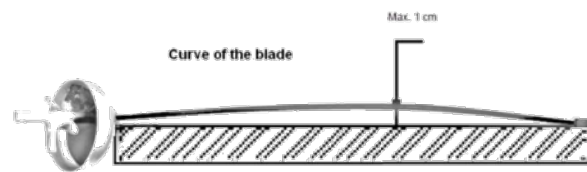


Figure 11: Épée blade curvature

Proposal 58

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.16

Motivation: The current Article m.16 “The blade” (old m.16.1–m.16.5) describes the épée blade section, curvature, blade length, maximum width, and flexibility. The restructured Article m.16 “Épée Guard” covers guard depth, eccentric mounting, padding, and gauge compliance. Old m.16 blade content is redistributed: triangular section (old m.16.1) to new m.15 “Cross Section”; curvature (old m.16.2) to new m.15 “Curvature”; blade length (old m.16.3) to new m.14 “Maximum Blade Length”; max width (old m.16.4) to new m.15 “Maximum Width”; flexibility (old m.16.5) to new m.15 “Flexibility.” New m.16 guard content draws from old m.17 (guard gauge/depth/eccentricity) and old m.5 (padding).

This reorganization:

1. Moves all blade provisions from old m.16 to new m.15
2. Creates a dedicated épée guard article
3. Draws guard content from old m.17 and old m.5
4. Adds padding provision from old m.5

~~The blade~~

m.16. Épée Guard

1. **Guard Depth** ~~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.~~

The depth of the guard (the distance between planes B and C) must be between 3 cm and 5.5 cm (see Figure 7).

2. **Eccentric Mounting Option** ~~2. It should be as straight as possible and mounted with the groove uppermost. Any curve of the blade must be uniform and the maximum bend must in any~~

~~case be less than 1 cm; it is only permitted in the vertical plane and must be near the centre of the blade. 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 9).~~

The distance between the center of the guard and the point where the blade passes through the guard must not exceed 3.5 cm.

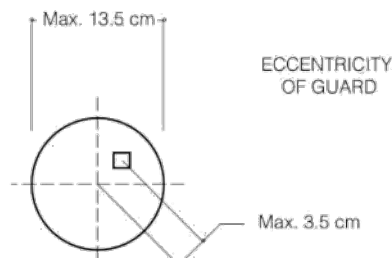


Figure 12: Épée guard eccentricity limits

3. Padding ~~3. The maximum length of the blade is 90 cm. (cf. m.3).~~

1. The interior must contain padding of cushioning material.
2. Padding must not exceed 2 cm in thickness.

4. Gauge Compliance ~~4. The maximum width of any of the three sides of the blade is 24 mm.~~

The guard must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:

1. The guard must be able to pass through a cylindrical gauge having a diameter of 13.5 cm and a length of 15 cm.
2. The blade must be parallel to the axis of the cylinder.

~~5. The blade should have a flexibility equivalent to a bend of 4.5 cm minimum and 7 cm maximum measured in the following way. a. The blade is fixed horizontally at a point 70 cm from the extremity of the button. b. A 200 g weight (tolerance +/- 1 g) is suspended 3 cm from the extremity of the button. c. The bend of the blade is measured at the extremity of the button between the non-weighted and weighted positions (see Figure 9).~~

Proposal 59

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.17

Motivation: The current Article m.17 “The guard (cf. m.5)” (old m.17.1–m.17.3) describes the épée guard gauge (13.5 cm diameter), total length to guard rear (95.5 cm), and eccentric mounting (3.5 cm offset). The restructured Article m.17 “Épée Socket Assembly” covers the socket block and wire

passage. Old m.17 guard content is redistributed: gauge (old m.17.1) to new m.16 “Gauge Compliance”; guard depth (old m.17.1) to new m.16 “Guard Depth”; total length to guard rear (old m.17.2) to new m.14 “Maximum Total Length to Guard Rear”; eccentric mounting (old m.17.3) to new m.16 “Eccentric Mounting Option.” New m.17 socket content draws from old m.18.3 (socket block with separate holes).

This reorganization:

1. Moves guard gauge/depth/eccentricity to new m.16
2. Moves total-to-guard-rear length to new m.14
3. Creates a dedicated socket assembly article
4. Draws socket content from old m.18

The guard (cf. m.5)

m.17. Épée Socket Assembly

1. Socket Assembly ~~1. The guard, which must have a circular edge, must be able to pass through a cylindrical gauge having a diameter of 13.5 cm and a length of 15 cm, the blade being parallel to the axis of the cylinder. The depth of the guard (the distance between lines B and C) must be between 3 cm and 5.5 cm (cf. m.3).~~

1. The socket assembly must be 3 separate sockets held in position by a block.
2. The socket must have two separate holes in the block.

~~2. The total length between lines A and C must never be greater than 95.5 cm (cf. m.3).~~

~~3. Eccentric mounting is allowed provided the distance between the centre of the guard and the point where the blade passes through the guard does not exceed 3.5 cm.~~

Proposal 60

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.18

Motivation: The current Article m.18 “Electric wires” (old m.18.1–m.18.3) describes the épée’s two electric wires, handle notch for wire passage, and socket block requirements. The restructured Article m.18 “Épée Handle” covers the handle covering restriction for orthopaedic handles. Old m.18 electric wire content is redistributed: two wires in groove (old m.18.1) to new m.19 “Electrical Wire”; handle notch (old m.18.2) to new m.3 handle provisions; socket block (old m.18.3) to new m.17 “Épée Socket Assembly.” New m.18 handle content draws from old m.4.3 (épée orthopaedic handle restriction).

This reorganization:

1. Moves electric wire provisions to new m.19

2. Moves socket block to new m.17
3. Creates a dedicated handle article
4. Draws handle restriction from old m.4.3

Electric wires

m.18. **Épée Handle**

1. Épée Handle ~~1. The épée has two electric wires, glued in a groove in the blade, which connect the button to two of the three sockets situated inside the guard and which form the active circuit of the épée. The earth circuit of the épée is connected to the third socket.~~

Orthopedic handles, whether metal or not, may not be covered with leather or any material which could hide wires or switches.

~~2. The handle must have, at the end which is in contact with the guard, a notch of 2 mm minimum depth, which allows the electric wires and their insulating sheaths to pass towards the sockets inside the guard without being squashed. (cf m.31.7)~~

~~3. The socket inside the epee guard must have two separate holes in the block, so that the two wires can be passed through the block separately and then connected to the terminals.~~

Proposal 61

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.19

Motivation: The current Article m.19 “Pointe d’arrêt and button” (old m.19.1–m.19.5) describes the épée pointe d’arrêt specifications, pressure, test weight, travel requirements, and retention. The restructured Article m.19 “Épée Electrical System” covers the electrical wire, wire-socket assembly, resistance, and circuit function. Old m.19 pointe d’arrêt content is redistributed to new m.20 “Épée Tip Assembly” (dimensions from old m.19.1; pressure from old m.19.2; travel from old m.19.4; mounting from old m.19.5). New m.19 electrical content draws from old m.18 (two wires and socket connections), old m.5.4 (2-ohm resistance limit), and new provisions for circuit function.

This reorganization:

1. Moves pointe d’arrêt provisions to new m.20
 2. Creates a dedicated electrical system article
 3. Draws wire/socket content from old m.18
 4. Consolidates resistance and circuit provisions
-

Pointe d'arrêt and button

m.19. Épée Electrical System

1. Electrical Wire ~~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°. b. The diameter of the crown of the pointe d'arrêt is 8 mm with a tolerance of ± 0.05 mm. The diameter of the base must not be less than 7.7 mm. c. The flange (collar) which guides the pointe d'arrêt as well as the insulating washer must be sufficiently recessed in relation to the crown (it is recommended that it be reduced in diameter by 0.3–0.5 mm in relation to the crown) so that it shall not be possible to cause a hit to be registered merely by sliding the depressed pointe d'arrêt against the convex surface of the guard (cf. t.67.a).~~

1. The wires must permanently connect the pointe d'arrêt to the socket.
2. The épée must have two separate, individually insulated electrical wires.
3. Wires must be securely affixed by glue within the groove of the blade along the entire length of the blade.

2. Wire-Socket Assembly ~~2. The pressure required on the pointe d'arrêt in order to complete the circuit in the épée, and thus cause the apparatus to register a hit, must be more than 750 g, that is to say that this weight must be lifted by the spring of the point.~~

1. Each wire connects to one socket.
2. The earth circuit of the épée must be connected to the third socket.
3. Wires must have insulated sheaths that pass from the guard to the socket assembly.
4. In no case may uninsulated wires extend beyond the plug connections.
5. Each wire must be passed through the hole in the block separately and then connected to the socket terminals.

3. Electrical Resistance ~~3. The weight used to check competitors' épées on the piste consists of a metal cylinder drilled part of the way along its axis with a hole parallel to its sides; this hole, into which is inserted the end of the blade, must have an insulating lining to prevent its metallic parts coming into contact with the earthed mass of the épée which might then give a false result to the test. This weight of 750 g may have a tolerance of ± 3 g, i.e. 747–753 g.~~

1. The total electrical resistance of the épée must not exceed 2 ohms.
2. Resistance must be verified in accordance with the Weapons Control procedures using an Ohm meter.

4. Circuit Function ~~4. a) The course or travel of the pointe d'arrêt required to complete the circuit in the épée and thus cause the apparatus to register a hit, called the lighting stroke, must~~

~~be greater than 1 mm. The further course which the pointe d'arrêt may travel must be less than 0.5 mm. (This requirement is just as essential as that for the lighting stroke). The gauge used should have a tolerance of a maximum of ± 0.05 mm. b. The total course or travel of the point must be greater than 1.5 mm (cf. t.68.3). The gauge used should have a tolerance of a maximum of ± 0.05 mm. c. Adjusting the lighting stroke by means of screws or any other external fixing device, once the point has been assembled on the weapon, is forbidden (cf t.44.3). d. An external screw or similar fixing device is only allowed if it is actually part of the assembling of the point. e. The head of the screw or fixing device must never project beyond the flat top surface of the point and its housing in the flat surface may not exceed 2 mm in diameter.~~

1. When the tip assembly is not depressed, the active circuit must be open.
2. When the tip assembly is depressed in accordance with this Book, the active circuit must be completed.

~~5. The pointe d'arrêt must be retained in the button at at least two points equally spaced, or by any other system approved by the SEMI Committee of the FIE.~~

Proposal 62

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.20

Motivation: The current Article m.20 "Method of affixing the button" (old m.20.1–m.20.6) describes the épée button base threading, fixing method, blade diameter, thread specifications, groove requirements, and SEMI verification authority. The restructured Article m.20 "Épée Tip Assembly" is a comprehensive article covering general construction, components, materials, dimensions, edge treatment, mounting, shank, barrel base, spring, travel, pressure, adjustment prohibition, and circuit function. Content draws from old m.19 (pointe d'arrêt dimensions from old m.19.1, pressure from old m.19.2, travel from old m.19.4, mounting from old m.19.5) and adds new provisions for components, materials, spring, and barrel construction.

This reorganization:

1. Moves button-affixing provisions to new m.21
2. Creates a comprehensive épée tip assembly article
3. Draws pointe d'arrêt provisions from old m.19
4. Adds new component, material, and construction provisions

Method of affixing the button

m.20. Épée Tip Assembly ~~If the base of the button is not made in one piece with the blade, or if it does not permit the flattened inset piece at the tip of the blade to be retained, the button must be~~

~~screwed onto the end of the blade, which must be cut and threaded for this purpose respecting the following conditions:~~

1. General Construction ~~1. Normally, only fixing by metal to metal is allowed. However, fixing by any material of great mechanical strength may be authorised after approval by the SEMI Committee of the FIE.~~

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

2. Tip Assembly Components ~~2. The end of the blade, before cutting the thread, must not have a diameter at any point which is less than 4 mm and this without anything being wrapped round it, a process which is strictly forbidden.~~

A tip assembly must consist of:

1. An insulated pointe d'arrêt.
2. A shank that is smaller in diameter to the pointe d'arrêt.
3. Spring(s).
4. A barrel that is a separate hollow cylindrical body.

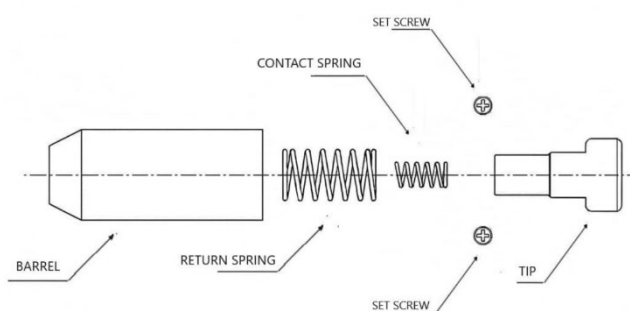


Figure 13: Notional drawing of épée tip assembly

3. Tip Assembly Material ~~3. a) The diameter of the core of thread at the end of the blade must not be less than 3.05 mm (thread SI 4.0 x 0.70). b) The part of the blade on which the button is fixed should be of a length of 7–8 mm entirely covered by the button. It is recommended that only the half of this length, at the extremity of the blade, be threaded. For the other half the button will have a smooth surface of 4.0 mm diameter into which it should take some force for the corresponding part of the blade to be introduced.~~

1. The components of the tip assembly must be manufactured from materials that:
 - a. Provide sufficient mechanical durability under normal competitive use;
 - b. Maintain consistent electrical performance as required by this Book; and
 - c. Resist corrosion or degradation that could affect safety or electrical function.
2. Material specifications and approved alloys must be defined in the Materials Homologation Handbook.

4. Pointe d'arrêt — Dimensions and Shape ~~4. The groove necessary to enable the wires to enter the button must be cut in such a way that it weakens as little as possible the section of the blade.~~

1. The pointe d'arrêt must be cylindrical.
2. The front surface of the pointe d'arrêt is flat and perpendicular to its axis.
3. The diameter of the crown of the pointe d'arrêt must be 8 mm $\pm$ 0.05 mm.

5. Pointe d'arrêt — Edge Treatment ~~5. Only the members of the SEMI Committee of the FIE or the Directoire Technique can require the verification of the above points.~~

The edge of the pointe d'arrêt must be either:

1. Rounded with a radius of 0.5 mm; or
2. Chamfered at 45° with a width of 0.5 mm.

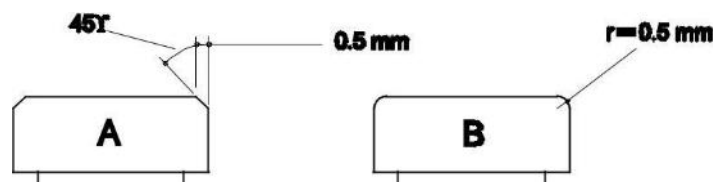


Figure 14: Examples of épée pointe d'arrêt edge treatment

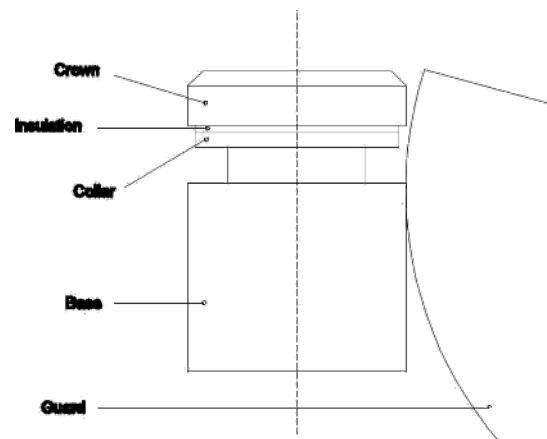
6. Pointe d'arrêt — Mounting

1. The pointe d'arrêt must be retained within the button in at least two places equidistant from each other.
2. Other methods of mounting must be approved by the SEMI Commission.

7. Shank Construction

1. The shank guides the pointe d'arrêt.
2. The shank and the insulating washer must be sufficiently recessed in relation to the crown.
3. The shank must be recessed in diameter between 0.3–0.5 mm in relation to the crown.
4. The shank must not allow a hit to be registered by sliding the depressed pointe d'arrêt against the convex surface of the guard.

Figure 15: Example of convex guard and épée tip hit



8. Barrel Base — Dimensions

The diameter of the base (barrel) must not be less than 7.7 mm.

9. Spring — Construction

1. Springs must be manufactured from materials capable of maintaining their elastic properties under repeated compression during normal competitive use.
2. The spring must be capable of lifting a weight of 750 g $\pm$ 2 g.

10. Tip Assembly — Travel

1. The travel of the pointe d'arrêt before a hit is registered must be greater than 1 mm.
2. The further course which the pointe d'arrêt may travel must be less than 0.5 mm.
3. The total course or travel of the point must be greater than 1.5 mm.
4. Travel must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures and the checking apparatus requirements in m.61 in the following way:
 - a. The gauge must have a tolerance of a maximum of $\pm$ 0.05 mm.

11. Tip Assembly — Pressure

1. The pressure required on the pointe d'arrêt must be more than 750 to complete the circuit.
2. Pressure must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
 - a. A weight of 750 g $\pm$ 3 grams must be lifted by the spring of the point d'arrêt.

12. Tip Assembly — Adjustment Prohibition

1. Adjusting the tip assembly by means of screws or any other external fixing device, once the point has been assembled on the weapon, is forbidden.
2. External screws or similar fixings are permitted only when they are essential for the tip assembly.

3. The head of the screw or fixing device must never project beyond the flat top surface of the point.
4. The head of the screw or fixing device must not exceed 2 mm in diameter beyond the external flat surface of the barrel.

13. Tip Assembly — Circuit Function

1. The pointe d'arrêt must maintain an open circuit when not depressed.
2. The circuit must be completed when the pointe d'arrêt is depressed in accordance with this Book.

Proposal 63

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.21

Motivation: The current Article m.21 “Length” (old m.21) contains the sabre maximum total length (105 cm). The restructured Article m.21 “Épée Blade-Tip Assembly Interface” covers the threaded interface between épée blade and tip assembly. The old m.21 sabre length moves to new m.23 “Sabre Dimensions and Weight.” New m.21 interface content draws from old m.20 “Method of affixing the button”: general requirement from old m.20.1; fixing method from old m.20.2; blade diameter from old m.20.3; thread diameter from old m.20.4a; blade tip length from old m.20.4b; groove from old m.20.5. “Prohibited Methods” draws from old m.20 soldering prohibition (general principle).

This reorganization:

1. Moves sabre length to new m.23
2. Creates a dedicated épée blade-tip interface article
3. Draws interface content from old m.20
4. Adds groove treatment and prohibited methods provisions

Length

m.21. Épée Blade-Tip Assembly Interface ~~The total maximum length of the sabre is 105 cm (cf m.3).~~

1. General Requirement

1. The tip assembly must be securely fixed to the blade.
2. Only fixing methods expressly permitted by this Book must be allowed.
3. The interface region is where the button is fixed to the blade.

2. Interface Region — Conditions

The tip assembly must be securely fixed to the blade by means of either:

- a. The tip assembly is made in one piece with the blade; OR
- b. The blade is securely retained by the tip assembly; OR
- c. The tip assembly must be securely fixed to the blade by means of a threaded interface in accordance with the épée weapon.

3. Fixing Method

1. Normally, only fixing by metal to metal is allowed.
2. However, fixing by any material of great mechanical strength may be authorized after approval by the SEMI Commission of the FIE.

4. Minimum Blade Diameter

1. Prior to threading, the blade must not have a diameter of less than 4 mm at any point within the interface region.
2. It is forbidden to have anything wrapped around the blade at the interface region.

5. Threaded Core Diameter

The diameter of the core of thread at the end of the blade must not be less than 3.05 mm (Threading SI 4.0 x 0.70).

6. Threaded Blade Tip Length

1. The part of the blade on which the tip assembly is fixed must be of a length of 7–8 mm.
2. The tip assembly must fully cover the threaded length of the blade tip.

7. Internally Threaded Barrel Length

1. It is recommended that only the half of the internal barrel length, at the extremity of the blade, be threaded.
2. For the other half the internal barrel will have a smooth surface of 4 mm diameter into which it should take some force for the corresponding part of the blade to be introduced.

8. Groove Treatment

The groove at the blade tip must cut in such a way that it weakens as little as possible the section of the blade.

9. Prohibited Methods

All methods of soldering or brazing or in general any heating which may affect the temper of the blade and the blade tip are forbidden.

Proposal 64

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.22

Motivation: The current Article m.22 “Weight” (old m.22) contains only the sabre total weight limit (500 g). The restructured Article m.22 “Sabre General Characteristics” replaces this with a sabre-specific nature statement. Old m.21 length content moves to new m.23 “Sabre Dimensions and Weight — Maximum Total Length.”

This reorganization:

1. Creates a clear sabre-specific introduction article
2. Moves the total length provision to the dedicated dimensions article (new m.23)
3. Begins the Sabre Specific Requirements section (Part 4)

Weight **Part 4: Sabre Specific Requirements**

m.22. Sabre General Characteristics ~~The total maximum length of the sabre is 105 cm (cf m.3).~~

1. Nature of the Weapon

The sabre is a cutting and thrusting weapon designed to register a valid touch by means of contact with the edge, flat, or point of the blade upon the valid target connected to an electrical scoring apparatus.

Proposal 65

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.23

Motivation: The current Article m.23 “The blade” (old m.23.1–m.23.4) describes the sabre blade’s steel composition, rectangular section, maximum length (88 cm), button construction, curvature limits, and flexibility requirements. The restructured Article m.23 “Sabre Dimensions and Weight” consolidates all sabre dimensional and weight limits into one article. “Maximum Total Length” draws from old m.21 (105 cm); “Maximum Blade Length” from old m.23.1 (88 cm); “Maximum Handle Length” from old m.4.1 (17 cm for sabre); “Maximum Weight” expands old m.22 with component definitions and measurement procedures.

This reorganization:

1. Groups all sabre dimension and weight limits in one article
2. Draws total length from old m.21, blade length from old m.23.1, handle length from old m.4.1
3. Adds explicit weight measurement definitions
4. References Chapter 5 Weapons Control procedures

~~The blade (see Figure 13)~~

m.23. Sabre Dimensions and Weight

1. Maximum Total Length ~~1. The blade, which must be of steel, is approximately rectangular in section. The maximum length of the blade is 88 cm. The minimum width of the blade, which must be at the button, is 4 mm; its minimum thickness, also measured immediately below the button, must be at least 1.2 mm.~~

The total length of the sabre, measured between Plane A and Plane E of a straight blade, must not exceed 105 cm (see Figure 16, m.4 and m.57).

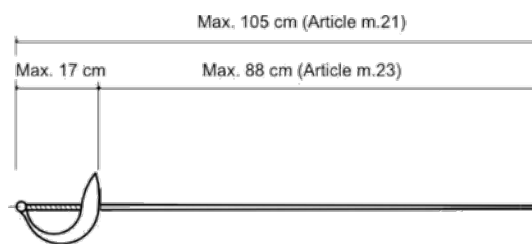


Figure 16: Dimensions of the sabre

2. Maximum Blade Length ~~2. The end of the blade must be folded over onto itself or be fashioned in one piece to form a button which, viewed end on, must have a square or rectangular section of 4 mm minimum and 6 mm maximum. The maximum dimension must be not more than 3 mm from the end of the blade.~~

The blade length, measured between Plane A and Plane B, must not exceed 88 cm (see Figure 16, m.4 and m.57).

3. Maximum Handle Length ~~3. If the blade has a curve, it must be a 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).~~

The maximum length of the handle is 17 cm, measured between Plane B and Plane E (see Figure 16, m.4 and m.57).

4. Maximum Weight ~~4. 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).~~

1. For the purposes of sabre, total weight must mean the assembled weapon including the blade, tang, guard, handle, pommel or locking nut, socket, and insulation.
2. The body cord must not be included in the weight measurement.
3. The total weight of the sabre must be less than 500 g (see m.55–m.57).
4. Weight must be determined in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures.

Proposal 66

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.24

Motivation: The current Article m.24 “The guard” (old m.24.1–m.24.7) describes the sabre guard’s shape, gauge compliance, socket, electrical circuit, interior and exterior insulation, and handle/pommel insulation. The restructured Article m.24 “Sabre Blade” breaks these into dedicated sub-sections. “Cross Section” draws from old m.23.1 (rectangular section); “Material” is new (references Materials Homologation Handbook); “Surface Condition” is new (hazardous surface prohibition); “Blade Width” draws from old m.23.1 (4 mm minimum width) and old m.23.2 (tip dimensions); “Blade Profile, Thickness and Tip Geometry” consolidates old m.23.1 (thickness) and old m.23.2 (button/tip construction); “Flexibility” draws from old m.23.4; “Curvature” draws from old m.23.3.

This reorganization:

1. Breaks the single blade article into dedicated sub-sections for each characteristic
2. Adds explicit material and surface condition requirements
3. Separates curvature from flexibility into distinct sub-sections
4. References Weapons Control procedures for verification

The guard (cf. m.5)

m.24. Sabre Blade

1. Cross Section ~~1. The guard must be full in shape, made in one piece and externally smooth. It must have a convex form which is continuous, without rim or holes.~~

The blade must be approximately rectangular in cross-section.

2. Material ~~2. It must be able to pass through a rectangular gauge measuring 15 cm by 14 cm in section, with a length of 15 cm, the blade being parallel with the longitudinal axis of the gauge.~~

The blade must be manufactured to the material requirements set out in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.

3. Surface Condition ~~3. Inside the guard there must be a socket into which the bodywire is plugged, whatever system is used.~~

The blade must not be sharpened, ground, heated, or otherwise treated in a manner that creates a hazardous surface between the guard and the tip.

4. Blade Width ~~4. The two sockets of the bodywire plug must be in direct contact with the body of the guard, making a closed electrical circuit through the bodywire, the spool and the cable connecting the spool to the scoring apparatus.~~

1. The minimum width of the blade, measured at the tip, must be 4 mm (see Figure 17).
2. The widest section of the tip must be no more than 3 mm from Plane A.
3. The width of the blade at Plane A of the tip must be a minimum of 4 mm and a maximum of 6 mm.
4. The thickness of the blade at the base of the tip must be at least 1.2 mm.

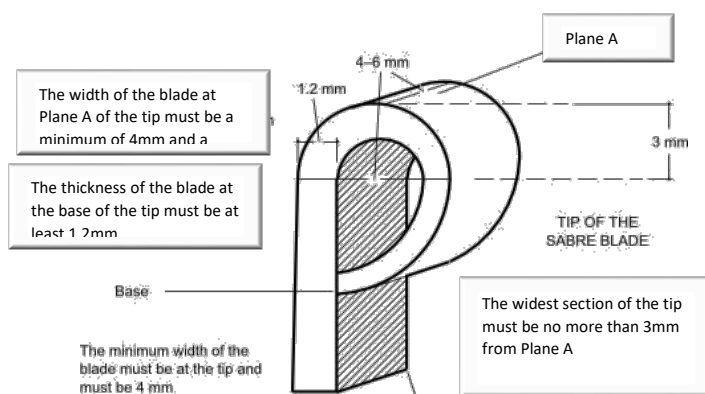


Figure 17: Blade with dimensions

5. Blade Profile, Thickness and Tip Geometry ~~5. The interior of the guard must be completely insulated by means of insulating paint or a pad.~~

1. The end of the blade must be folded over onto itself or fashioned in one piece to form the sabre tip.
2. The tip, when viewed end-on, must have a square or rectangular section.
3. The tip section must be a minimum of 4 mm to a maximum of 6 mm.

4. The maximum dimension must be located not more than 3 mm from the end of the blade (Plane A).
5. The minimum thickness of the blade, measured immediately below the tip, must be at least 1.2 mm.

6. Flexibility ~~6. The exterior of the guard must be insulated for 7–8 cm from the pommel.~~

1. The blade must demonstrate flexibility corresponding to a bend of minimum 4 cm and maximum 7 cm.
2. Flexibility must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures 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 suspended 1 cm from the tip.
 - c. The bend is measured at the tip of the blade between the weighted and unweighted positions (see Figure 18).

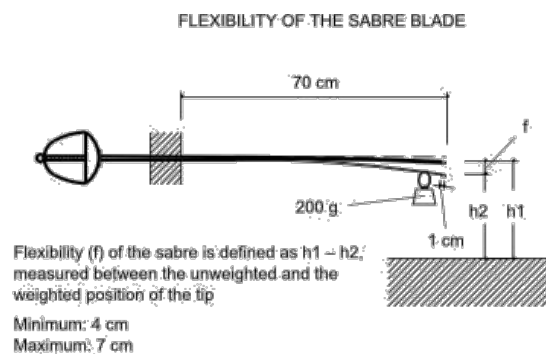


Figure 18: Flexibility of the sabre blade

7. Curvature ~~7. The handle and the pommel must be completely insulated.~~

1. The blade must not exhibit a curvature exceeding 4 cm.
2. The curvature of the blade must be continuous.
3. The curve must be in the vertical plane only.
4. The curve must be near the center of the blade.
5. Blades with sharply bent extremities are forbidden.
6. Blades which curve in the direction of the cutting edge are forbidden.
7. Curvature must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
 - a. The blade is placed on a flat surface.
 - b. The position of the curve is uppermost.
 - c. The measurement is maximum distance between the flat surface and the blade (see Figure 19).

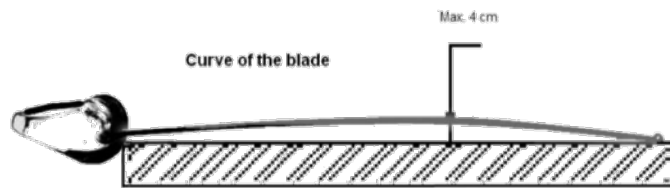


Figure 19: Sabre blade curvature

Proposal 67

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.25

Motivation: The current Article m.25 refers to a chapter dedicated to equipment and clothing. The restructured Article m.25 “Sabre Guard and Guard Assembly” breaks these into ten dedicated sub-sections. “Guard Assembly” is new (defines assembly components); “Guard Geometry and Construction” draws from old m.24.1; “External Guard Surface Requirements” draws from old m.24.1 (smooth exterior); “Guard Mounting” is new; “Gauge Compliance” draws from old m.24.2; “Guard Interior Insulation” draws from old m.24.5; “Guard Exterior Insulation” draws from old m.24.6; “Socket Assembly” draws from old m.24.3; “Handle” and “Pommel” draw from old m.24.7 (split into separate sub-sections).

This reorganization:

1. Breaks the single guard article into dedicated sub-sections for each requirement
2. Adds explicit guard assembly definition and guard mounting requirements
3. Separates handle and pommel insulation into distinct sub-sections
4. References Weapons Control procedures for gauge verification

Chapter 2. Equipment and Clothing

General Conditions

m.25. Sabre Guard and Guard Assembly 1. ~~1. Protection: The equipment and clothing must provide the competitor with the maximum protection compatible with the freedom of movement necessary for fencing.~~

1. Guard Assembly

A guard assembly must consist of:

- a. The guard
- b. A socket assembly

- c. A handle
- d. A pommel

2. Guard Geometry and Construction ~~2. — Safety: Fencers' 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~~

- 1. The guard must be full in shape.
- 2. The guard must be made in one piece.
- 3. The guard must have a continuous convex form.
- 4. The guard must not have a rim.
- 5. The guard must not have holes.

3. External Guard Surface Requirements ~~3. Characteristics of the clothing:~~

~~a) The national uniform includes the socks, the breeches and the jacket. b) The material from which the equipment is made must not have a surface which is smooth enough to cause the pointe d'arrêt, the button or the opponent's hit to glance off (cf. m.30). c) — Jackets, under-plastrons, breeches and trousers must be made entirely in cloth able to resist a pressure of 800 Newtons. Very particular attention must be paid to the way the seams under the armpits, if there are any, are made. The fastenings of the uniform, jacket and breeches, (typically zips), must be protected by a flap sewn to cover the fastenings in the direction of the fencer's armed arm (right handed from right to left — left handed from left to right). An under-garment consisting of a protective under-plastron covering the vital upper areas of the body (following the design given in Annexe A to these Rules, 'Safety norms for manufacturers') resistant to 800 Newtons is also obligatory. d) — Fencers' clothing may be of different colours, apart from black. e) — There shall be only one national uniform per country with the exception that the manufacturers' marks and sponsors' logos may be different. f) — Logos (national strips) worn on the national clothing must be approved by the FIE Executive Committee; they are then published on the FIE website and may thereafter be used in official FIE competitions. 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. The logos must be identical for all fencers of the same federation. h) — The family name of the fencer must be displayed on the back of the jacket, with the abbreviation of the national federation below it, at the level of the shoulder blades. They must be printed directly onto the jacket or onto a cloth entirely sewn onto the jacket. The letters must be in dark blue, in Roman capitals, between 8 cm and 10 cm high, and each stroke must be a maximum of 1.5 cm wide. A World Champion has the right to have his/her name and the abbreviation of his/her national federation printed in red for the following season. An Olympic Champion has the right to have his/her name and the abbreviation of his/her national federation printed in gold until the end of the next Olympic Games.~~

The guard must be externally smooth.

4. Guard Mounting ~~4. Jacket a) — At all weapons, for men and ladies, the lower edge of the jacket must overlap the breeches by at least 10 cm when the fencer is in the on-guard position (cf. m.28, m.34). b) — The jacket must include a lining making a double thickness of material for the sleeve down to the elbow of the sword arm and covering the flank up to the region of the armpit. At épée the fencer is required to wear a regulation jacket, which covers the whole of the surface of the trunk. c) — At all weapons, the use of a breast/chest protector (made of metal or some rigid material) is compulsory for women and optional for men. At foil, this breast/chest protector must be worn below the protective plastron. At foil, the protector will have the following characteristics: The entire outside of the chest protector (the side facing the opponent) must be covered with a soft material such as E.V.A. (Ethylene vinyl acetate) of four mm thickness and density of 22kg/m³. (The material can be attached to the current plastic models or incorporated into the manufacture of new chest protectors). The material must have the SEMI technical mark at the center of the upper edge.~~

1. The guard must be mounted and fixed between the blade and the handle.
2. The convex face of the guard is toward Plane A (the tip).

5. Gauge Compliance ~~5. — Breeches and socks a) — The breeches must be fastened below the knees. b) — With breeches, the fencer must wear socks which cover the legs right up to the breeches. These socks must be held up in such a way that they cannot fall down. c) — The fencer is permitted to wear socks with a 10cm turn-over showing the colours of his national team.~~

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

The guard must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:

1. The sabre guard must pass through a rectangular gauge of 15 cm width by 14 cm length by a depth of 15 cm.
2. The blade must be parallel to the axis of the gauge.

6. Guard Interior Insulation ~~6. Glove — At all weapons, the gauntlet of the glove must, in all circumstances, fully cover approximately half the forearm of the competitor's sword arm to prevent the opponent's blade entering the sleeve of the jacket. Under no circumstances should there be any hole in the hand of the glove, even to allow the passage of the body wire. The closure of the glove should be from the middle of the wrist upwards towards the thumb.~~

1. The interior of the guard must be completely insulated.
2. Insulation must be by means of insulating paint or a pad.
3. The insulating material must prevent electrical contact between the guard body and internal components other than the designated socket connections.

7. Guard Exterior Insulation ~~7. — Mask~~

~~a) The mask must be made with meshes (space between the wires) of maximum 2.1 mm and from wires with a minimum gauge of 1 mm diameter. The mask must include two different safety systems at the rear. b) — Masks, at all weapons, must be made in accordance with the safety standards described in Annexe A to these Rules and must carry the quality label~~

~~specified in those standards. c) The entire mesh of the mask 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) The bib of the mask must be made with cloth resistant to 1600 Newtons. e) The mask must contain two different safety systems at the rear of the mask, with the two ends of the straps of the systems firmly affixed to the two sides of the mask. These straps must meet the following requirements approved by the SEMI Commission and any retro-fitting to existing masks must be carried out by the original manufacturer.~~

~~Mask with metallic tongue~~

- ~~• The central band (strap) should not be less than 45 mm wide.~~
- ~~• The strap must be positioned low enough across the rear of the cervical region that the position of the strap on the head ensures that the mask cannot slide off.~~
- ~~• The band must be in solid material : when stretched the material should not sustain permanent plastic deformation and should quickly return to its original shape and size~~
- ~~• The fastening system must be doubled: it must be closed with a double security system (this means that the Velcro™ has to be attached at least twice).~~
- ~~• The Velcro™ must have a minimum breaking strain of 750 N/cm~~
- ~~• The tags to which the strap is attached by Velcro must be secured to each side of the mask with the same breaking strain.~~

~~Mask without metallic tongue~~

- ~~• The position of the main strap must be low enough to ensure that the mask cannot slide off; the correct distance should be decided by the manufacturer (typically 25/30 mm).~~
- ~~• The strap must incorporate 3 fixing points.~~
- ~~• The use of a magnetic strap, already existing, remains mandatory.~~

~~Please refer to the examples in the drawings below:~~

~~These images are only provided for information. When in doubt, the wording of the relevant text prevails.~~

1. The exterior of the guard must be insulated for a distance of 7–8 cm measured from Plane E (pommel).
2. This insulation must cover the portion of the guard nearest to the handle.

8. Socket Assembly

The socket assembly must be positioned between the guard and the handle (see m.39 for body wire requirements and m.45).

9. Handle

The handle must be completely insulated.

10. Pommel

The pommel must be completely insulated.

Proposal 68

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.26

Motivation: There is no single old article corresponding to the new Article m.26 “Sabre Electrical System.” Electrical provisions were previously scattered across old m.24.3 (socket inside guard) and old m.24.4 (bodywire plug direct contact and electrical circuit). The restructured Article m.26 consolidates all sabre-specific electrical requirements into a dedicated article covering circuit function, socket assembly fixation, and electrical resistance.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated sabre electrical system article
2. Consolidates electrical provisions previously scattered in old m.24
3. Adds explicit electrical resistance limit (1 ohm) with verification procedure
4. References m.45 for sabre scoring apparatus requirements

~~Rules Specific to Foil~~**~~Glove (cf. m.25)~~**

m.26. Sabre Electrical System ~~The glove may be slightly padded.~~

1. Circuit Function

The socket assembly inclusive of the body wire plugs make a closed electrical circuit through the wires to the scoring apparatus.

2. Socket Assembly — Fixation

1. Inside the guard there must be a socket assembly.
2. The socket assembly must contain two sockets.
3. The two sockets and the body wire plug must be in direct contact with the body of the guard during fencing activity.
4. The socket must not include any part which allows unintended electrical contact to be made between the plug sockets.

3. Electrical Resistance

1. The maximum electrical resistance allowed must not exceed 1 ohm (see m.45).

2. Resistance must be verified in accordance with the Weapons Control procedures using an Ohm meter.

Proposal 69

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.27

Motivation: The current Article m.27 “Mask” (old m.27, foil-specific) describes the foil mask mesh, bib conductivity, and means of connection requirements. The restructured Article m.27 “Equipment and Clothing General Requirements” replaces the foil-specific mask article with a comprehensive general requirements article for all equipment and clothing. The foil mask provisions from old m.27 are now covered under m.28 “Mask Requirements” (Additional Requirements — Foil). The restructured m.27 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 “General conditions” and breaks these into eight dedicated sub-sections covering Protection Standards, Safety Requirements, Material and Color Requirements, Homologation and Quality Labels, National Identification and Uniform Standards, National Logos, Name and Federation Display, and Effect of Marking on Function.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the foil-specific mask article with a comprehensive general requirements article
2. Moves foil mask mesh, bib, and connection requirements to m.28 (Mask Requirements)
3. Draws general equipment and clothing provisions from old m.25 into the new Chapter 3 structure
4. Adds explicit homologation, national identification, and marking requirements as standalone sub-sections
5. Opens the new Chapter 3: Equipment and Clothing structure

Rules Specific to Foil

Mask (cf. m.25)

Chapter 3: Equipment and Clothing

Part 1: General Provisions

Refers to parts, requirements, and definitions related to all equipment and clothing.

m.27. Equipment and Clothing General Requirements 1. ~~1. The mesh of the mask must not extend below the chin. It must be insulated internally and externally by a plastic material resistant to impact.~~

1. Protection Standards

1. Equipment and clothing must provide the competitor with maximum protection compatible with the freedom of movement necessary for fencing.
2. All protective equipment must meet FIE safety standards and, where required, homologation requirements (see Chapter 6, m.66-m.69).

3. The numerical resistance values and corresponding test methods are those defined in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook; compliance with those standards is mandatory for all equipment used in FIE competitions.

2. Safety Requirements ~~2. — The part of the bib that is beneath a horizontal line 1.5–2 cm below the chin, must be entirely covered with a material that has the same conductive characteristics as the conductive jacket.~~

1. Fencers' clothing must be clean and in good condition.
2. Clothing and equipment must be maintained in a condition that does not compromise their protective function, structural integrity, or safety performance
3. All clothing and equipment covered by this Chapter must be worn and fastened in accordance with their approved design and any applicable FIE safety standard, so that full protective coverage is maintained during fencing.
4. All closures, including zips, buttons, hooks, straps, elastic, and hook-and-loop (Velcro) fasteners, must be fully closed or secured on the field of play and throughout each bout; a fencer must not begin or continue a bout if any required fastening is open, partially open, or otherwise not correctly secured.
5. Equipment must not include buckles or openings in which the opponent's point may be caught up — except accidentally — and thus held or deflected.
6. Equipment must not obstruct or injure the opponent beyond what results from normal, valid fencing actions (see m.2).

3. Material Requirements and Color Requirements ~~3. — Means of connection: the electrical contact between the conductive jacket and the bib of the mask must be ensured by means of a white coloured or clear covered wire with two crocodile clips. The wire must be attached to the bib of the mask with one crocodile clip and to the jacket with the other. This wire must be between 30cm and 40cm long. A coiled mask wire is not allowed. The crocodile clips, the design and size of which must conform to the conditions laid down in Article m.29.2(c), must be soldered to the ends of the wire. In addition, the electrical resistance in this wire (between the two crocodile clips) must not exceed 1 ohm.~~

1. Jackets, under-plastrons, breeches, and trousers must be made entirely of cloth able to resist a pressure of 800 Newtons.
2. The material from which equipment is made must not have a surface smooth enough to cause the pointe d'arrêt, the tip, or the opponent's hit to glance off.
3. Seams in high-stress or vital areas, including under the arms and at the armpits, must maintain the same minimum perforation resistance as the surrounding material and must not create structural weaknesses or openings (m.69).
4. The fastenings of the uniform, jacket, and breeches (typically zips) must be protected by a flap sewn to cover the fastenings in the direction of the fencer's armed arm:
 - a. Right-handed fencers: from right to left
 - b. Left-handed fencers: from left to right
5. Fencers' clothing may be of different colors, apart from black.

4. Homologation and Quality Labels

1. All protective equipment must conform to the safety standards described in the relevant FIE safety documents and Materials Homologation Handbook.
2. Equipment requiring homologation must display a valid homologation mark recognized under the applicable FIE safety standards and must be used only while that homologation remains valid.
3. Only equipment bearing valid homologation marks may be used in FIE competitions.
4. Use and validity of homologation marks are further governed by m.67-m.73

5. National Identification and Uniform Standards

1. For the purposes of these Rules, the national uniform consists of the jacket, breeches, and socks worn in official FIE competitions.
2. There must be only one national uniform design per country, with the exception that manufacturers' marks and sponsors' logos may be different.
3. National identification is fulfilled by the compulsory, FIE-accepted national leg logo displayed on both legs; these markings must appear on the breeches and, where applicable, on any visible sock turnover.
4. Each federation may designate only one national leg-logo design for use in official FIE competitions; that design must be identical for all fencers of the same federation in the same competition, subject only to differences in manufacturers' marks and sponsors' logos.
5. Compliance with the national uniform standards may be checked at Weapons Control (see m.55-m.56)

6. National Logos

1. Logos worn on national clothing must be approved by the FIE Executive Committee for the federation concerned.
2. Approved national logo designs are published through official FIE channels and may thereafter be used in official FIE competitions (see m.69).
3. For all official FIE competitions:
 - a. The wearing of national logos is compulsory on both legs.
 - b. National logos are optional on the arm(s).

7. Name and Federation Display

1. The family name of the fencer must be displayed on the back of the jacket, with the abbreviation of the national federation below it, at the level of the shoulder blades.
2. Names and abbreviations must be printed directly onto the jacket or onto cloth entirely sewn onto the jacket.
3. Letters must conform to the following specifications:
 - a. Color: Dark Blue (suggested colors)

Hex	RGB	CMYK (C, M, Y, K) approx.
#000040	0, 0, 64	100, 100, 0, 75
#000068	0, 0, 104	100, 100, 0, 59
#000080	0, 0, 128	100, 100, 0, 50
#00008B	0, 0, 139	100, 100, 0, 45
#002366	0, 35, 102	100, 66, 0, 60
#003366	0, 51, 102	100, 50, 0, 60

- b. Style: Lettering must be set in an all-capitals sans-serif typeface of normal width (not condensed), such as Arial, Aptos, Calibri, Segoe UI, Verdana, Open Sans, or an equivalent font.
- c. Height: between 8 cm and 10 cm
- d. Stroke width: between 6mm to a maximum 1.5 cm
- 4. Letter dimensions may be checked at Weapons control (see m.55-m.57)

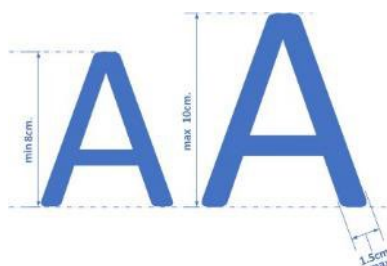


Figure 20: Illustration of name lettering specifications

- 5. The World Champion has the right to have their name and the abbreviation of their national federation printed in red for the following season.
- 6. An Olympic Champion has the right to have their name and the abbreviation of their national federation printed in gold until the end of the next Olympic Games.

8. Effect of Marking on Function

Any markings, colors, names, numbers, logos, or decorations, including paints, inks, transfers, or patches, applied to weapons, clothing, masks, or conductive pistes must not impair their safety performance or functional characteristics, including electrical conductivity and resistance limits specified in this Book.

Proposal 70

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.28

Motivation: The current Article m.28 “Conductive jacket” (old m.28, foil-specific) describes the foil conductive over-jacket requirements, including target coverage, fastening, insulation, collar, lamé material, construction, and the non-conductive band. The restructured Article m.28 “Mask Requirements” replaces the foil-specific conductive jacket article with a comprehensive mask requirements article covering all three weapons. The foil conductive jacket provisions from old m.28 are now covered under m.30 “Conductive Jacket Requirements.” The restructured m.28 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 mask construction provisions and m.27 foil-specific mask provisions, and adds dedicated sub-sections for mesh specifications, bib requirements, safety retention systems, tongue configurations, dimensions, color, and weapon-specific additional requirements.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the foil-specific conductive jacket article with a comprehensive mask requirements article for all weapons
2. Moves foil conductive jacket provisions to m.30 (Conductive Jacket Requirements)
3. Consolidates mask construction and safety requirements from old m.25 into dedicated sub-sections
4. Adds explicit mesh specifications, bib requirements, and safety retention system sub-sections
5. Separates foil-specific and sabre-specific mask requirements into distinct additional requirements sub-sections

Conductive jacket Part 2: Mask

m.28. Mask Requirements 1. ~~1. The conductive surface of the conductive over jacket which is worn over the protective jacket must cover the valid target of the fencer (cf. t.47) entirely and without omission when in the on-guard position. The jacket must have a conductive flap, minimum 2 cm by 3 cm, near the middle of the back, just below the collar, to which the crocodile clip from the mask can be attached.~~

1. General Construction

1. Masks must be constructed in accordance with the safety standards described in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.
2. Masks must carry the quality label specified in those standards.
3. The mask must be made in one piece with proper structural integrity.

2. Mesh Specifications ~~2. — Whatever the means of fastening used, the conductive material must cover a sufficient area to ensure that it covers the valid target in all positions of the fencer. The overlap must always be on the sword-arm side.~~

1. The mask must be made with meshes (space between the wires) of maximum 2.1 mm.
2. The wires must have a minimum gauge of 1 mm diameter.
3. The entire mesh of the mask must be able to withstand, without permanent deformation, the introduction of a conical instrument having:
 - a. An angle of the surface of the cone at 4° to the axis.
 - b. A pressure of 12 kg.

3. Bib Requirements ~~3. — The interior of conductive jackets must be electrically insulated by a lining or by an adequate treatment of the lamé material.~~

1. The bib of the mask must be made with cloth resistant to 1600 Newtons.
2. The bib must provide complete protection of the throat and neck area.
3. The bib must be securely attached to the mesh portion of the mask.

4. Safety Retention Systems ~~4. — The conductive collar must have a minimum height of 3 cm and the foil conductive jacket must have a conductive flap, minimum 2 cm by 3 cm, near the middle of the back, just below the collar, to which the crocodile clip from the mask can be attached.~~

1. The mask must include two different safety retention systems at the rear.
2. The two ends of the straps of the systems must be firmly affixed to the two sides of the mask.
3. Any retrofitting to existing masks must be carried out by the original manufacturer.
4. The safety retention systems must meet the requirements approved by the SEMI Commission.

5. Mask with Metallic Tongue ~~5. — The lamé material used must be of conductive thread in both warp and weft. As regards electrical conductivity it must conform to the following requirements. a) The electrical resistance measured between any two points of the lamé material must not be greater than 5 ohms. The resistance will be measured by using a 500g conductive metal weight which has a hemispherical end with a radius of 4 mm. This weight, placed on this end and moved about on the lamé, must maintain continuous contact with a maximum resistance of 5 ohms. b) In no circumstances must the use of a conductive jacket be allowed if it has holes in it, or patches of oxidation or other defects which may prevent the registration of a valid hit.~~

1. The central band (strap) must not be less than 45 mm wide.
2. The strap must be positioned low enough across the rear of the cervical region to ensure that the mask cannot slide off the head during fencing actions.

3. The band must be of solid material: when stretched, the material must not sustain permanent plastic deformation and must quickly return to its original shape and size.
4. The fastening system of the band must comply with all of the following:
 - a. It must use a double security system, meaning that the Velcro™ must be attached at least twice.
 - b. The Velcro™ must have a minimum breaking strain of 750 N/cm.
 - c. The strap must be secured to each side of the mask by tags to which it is attached by Velcro™, and those tags must have at least the same minimum breaking strain.

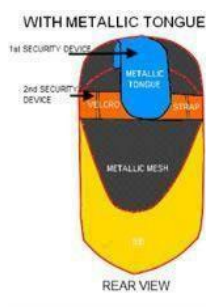


Figure 21: Mask with metallic tongue

6. Mask without Metallic Tongue ~~6. The conductive jacket must be so made that when it is laid flat there is a straight line between the point of junction of the lines of the groin and the two points corresponding to the tops of the hip bones (ilium).~~

1. The strap must incorporate 3 fixing points.
2. The main strap must be positioned low enough to ensure that the mask cannot slide off the head during fencing actions.
3. Where a magnetic strap system is part of the approved design, the use of the magnetic strap remains mandatory.

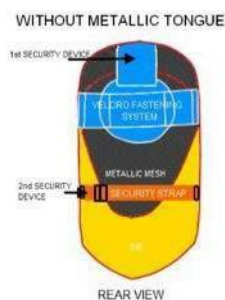


Figure 22: Mask without metallic tongue

7. Dimensions and Fit ~~7. The band of non-conductive material passing between the legs must be at least 3 cm wide (see Figure 14).~~

1. The mask must provide complete coverage of the head, face, and neck during all fencing positions.
2. The mask must fit securely without excessive movement during fencing actions.

3. The dimensions must conform to the standards specified in this Book and to the Materials Homologation Handbook.

8. External Color and Color Designs

Masks may feature colored designs on condition that they are approved by the FIE Executive Committee.

9. Additional Requirements — Foil

1. The mesh of the mask must not extend below the chin.
2. The mask must be insulated internally and externally by a plastic material resistant to impact.
3. The part of the bib that is beneath a horizontal line 1.5–2 cm below the chin must be entirely covered with a material that has the same conductive characteristics as the conductive jacket.
4. The electrical contact between the mask and the conductive jacket must be maintained throughout all fencing actions.
5. The wire must be attached to the bib of the mask with one crocodile clip and to the jacket with the other crocodile clip.
6. See m.37 for specific foil wire details.

10. Additional Requirements — Sabre

1. The entire mesh, bib of the mask, joined areas, and edges must be conductive.
2. The conductive surface must cover all valid target areas of the head as defined in the competition rules.
3. The mask must maintain electrical continuity with the conductive jacket.
4. The electrical contact between the mask and the conductive jacket must be maintained throughout all fencing actions.
5. The wire must be attached to the bib of the mask with one crocodile clip and to the jacket with the other crocodile clip.
6. See m.38 for specific sabre wire details.

11. Additional Requirements — Epee

1. The mask must not be conductive.

Proposal 71

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.29

Motivation: The current Article m.29 “Bodywire and attachment plugs” (old m.29, foil-specific) describes the foil bodywire insulation, plug construction, pin assignments, crocodile clip specifications, and guard-end attachment. The restructured Article m.29 “Jacket Requirements” replaces the foil-specific bodywire article with a comprehensive jacket requirements article for all weapons. The foil bodywire provisions from old m.29 are now covered under m.37 “Bodywire and Connection Requirements — Foil.” The restructured m.29 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 jacket and clothing provisions and consolidates jacket construction, material specifications, fastening, seam construction, and épée-specific requirements into five dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the foil-specific bodywire article with a comprehensive jacket requirements article for all weapons
2. Moves foil bodywire and plug provisions to m.37 (Bodywire and Connection Requirements — Foil)
3. Consolidates jacket construction and coverage requirements from old m.25 into a single article
4. Adds explicit material specifications, fastening, and seam construction sub-sections
5. Includes épée-specific jacket requirements as a dedicated additional requirements sub-section

Rules Specific to Foil

Bodywire and attachment plugs Part 3: Jacket

m.29. Jacket Requirements 1. ~~1. a) The conductive wires of the bodywire must be well insulated electrically from each other, twisted or joined together, and not be affected by humidity. b) This bodywire has a connecting plug which must be made of a transparent material at each end. In the absence of a security device being fitted to the weapon, a security device must be fitted to the plug of the bodywire. c) The electrical resistance of each of these conductive wires (plug to plug and plug to crocodile clip) must not exceed 1 ohm.~~

1. Jacket General Requirements

1. The lower edge of the jacket must overlap the breeches by at least 10 cm when the fencer is in the on-guard position.
2. The jacket must include a lining making a double thickness of material for:
 - a. The sleeve down to the elbow of the sword arm
 - b. The flank up to the region of the armpit
3. The jacket must be constructed to allow full freedom of movement while maintaining protective coverage.

2. Material Specifications 2. ~~a) At the spool end the three pin male plug, which must comply with the conditions of manufacture and assembly laid down in Article m.55, will be attached to~~

~~the wires in the following manner: the pin at 15 mm from the centre pin to the conductive jacket; the central pin to the wire in the weapon; the pin at 20 mm from the centre pin to the foil earth circuit or the conductive piste. b) The wire which joins the rear connection of the bodywire to the conductive jacket by a crocodile clip must be separate for at least 40 cm. This wire must be soldered to the crocodile clip and this soldering must not be covered by any insulation or any material whatsoever. However, any method of fixing which presents the same guarantees as soldering may be used, provided it has been accepted by the SEMI Committee. c) The crocodile clip must be robust and ensure perfect contact with the conductive jacket. Its width at the point of contact must be at least 10 mm; the inside of the clip must leave a free space at least 8 mm long by 3 mm high. It must be clipped onto the back of the conductive jacket on the sword-arm side.~~

1. The jacket must be made entirely of cloth able to resist a pressure of 800 Newtons.
2. The material must comply with the safety standards and test methods described in this Book and the Materials Homologation Rules.

3. Fastening Requirements ~~3. — a) At the end nearest the foil, inside the guard, any method of attachment is allowed but the method adopted must always conform to the specification laid down in Article m.5. b) In addition, the pins of the plug must in no circumstances be able to touch the metal part of the guard.~~

1. The jacket must be capable of being completely closed.
2. The collar must be capable of being completely fastened.

4. Seam Construction

1. Seams must be constructed to maintain the 800 Newton resistance standard.

5. Additional Requirements — Épée

1. At épée, the fencer is required to wear a regulation jacket which covers the whole of the surface of the trunk.
2. The jacket must provide complete coverage of the valid target area as defined in the competition rules.
3. No conductive surface is required for épée jackets.

Proposal 72

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.30

Motivation: The current Article m.30 “Mask” (old m.30, épée-specific) describes the épée mask prohibition on conductive material and the bib shape requirement. The restructured Article m.30 “Conductive Jacket Requirements” replaces the épée-specific mask article with a comprehensive conductive jacket requirements article for all weapons. The épée mask provisions from old m.30 are

now covered under m.28 “Mask Requirements.” The restructured m.30 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.28 foil conductive jacket provisions and m.34 sabre conductive jacket provisions, and consolidates coverage, material, construction, electrical resistance, and weapon-specific requirements into six dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the épée-specific mask article with a comprehensive conductive jacket requirements article for all weapons
2. Moves épée mask provisions to m.28 (Mask Requirements)
3. Consolidates foil conductive jacket requirements from old m.28 and sabre conductive jacket requirements from old m.34 into a single article
4. Adds explicit material requirements, construction requirements, and electrical resistance sub-sections
5. Separates foil-specific and sabre-specific conductive jacket requirements into distinct additional requirements sub-sections

Rules Specific to Epee

Mask

m.30. Conductive Jacket Requirements ~~1. — The mask must not be covered, in whole or in part, by conductive material or material which can cause the point to glance off (cf. m.25).~~

1. General Coverage

1. The conductive surface of the conductive over-jacket, which is worn over the protective jacket, must cover the valid target of the fencer entirely and without omission when in the on-guard position.
2. Whatever the means of fastening used, the conductive material must cover a sufficient area to ensure that it covers the valid target in all positions of the fencer.
3. The overlap must always be on the sword-arm side.
4. The interior of conductive jackets must be electrically insulated by a lining or by an adequate treatment of the conductive lamé material.

2. Conductive Jacket — Material Requirements ~~2. The mask must be so shaped that the bib reaches below the prominences of the collar bones (clavicles).~~

1. The lamé material used must be of conductive thread in both warp and weft.
2. Holes or patches of oxidation or other defects which may prevent the registration of a valid hit is forbidden.

3. Conductive Jacket — Construction Requirements

1. The jacket when laid flat is a straight line between the point of junction of the lines of the groin and the two points corresponding to the tops of the hip bones (ilium).
2. The band of non-conductive material passing between the legs and is fixed to the lower edge of the back of the jacket must be at least 3 cm wide.
3. The conductive collar must have a minimum height of 3 cm.

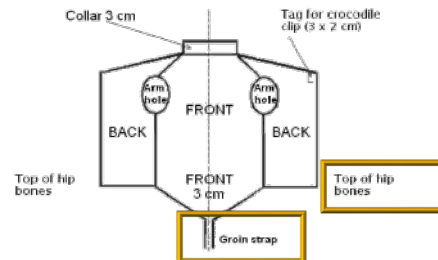


Figure 23: Conductive jacket illustration

4. Conductive Jacket — Electrical Resistance

1. The electrical resistance measured between any two points of the conductive material must not be greater than 5 ohms +1 ohm.
2. Electrical resistance must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
 - a. The resistance will be measured by using a 500 g conductive metal which has a hemispherical end with a radius of 4 mm.
 - b. This weight, placed on this end and moved about on the lamé, must maintain continuous contact with a maximum resistance of 5 ohms +1 ohm.

5. Additional Requirements — Foil

1. The foil conductive jacket must have a conductive flap, minimum 2 cm by 3 cm, near the middle of the back, just below the collar, to which the crocodile clip from the mask can be attached.

2. Including as mentioned in t. 77

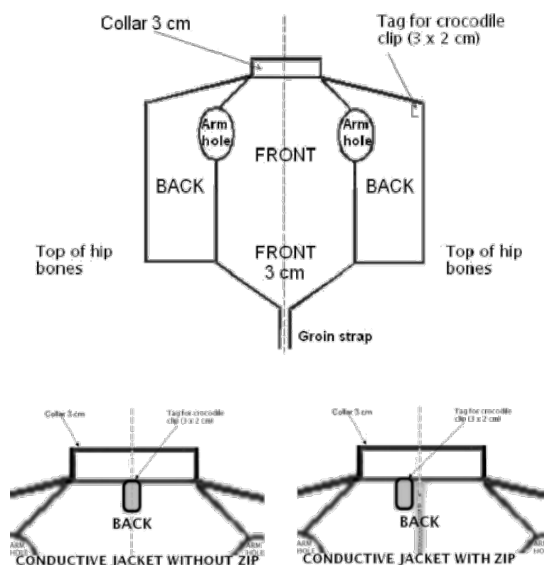


Figure 24: Foil conductive jacket details

6. Additional Requirements — Sabre

1. The conductive jacket or conductive sleeveless over-jacket must cover the valid target entirely.
2. The valid target includes the area above a horizontal line across the top of the folds formed by the fencer's thighs and trunk when in the on-guard position.
3. Sleeves must reach to the middle of the hand when the sword arm is extended and the hand is in the position of the sixte parry.
4. The conductive material must cover the entire arm.
5. Whatever the means of fastening used, the conductive material must overlap sufficiently to cover the target in all fencing positions.
6. The overlap must be on the sword-arm side and must not extend below the horizontal line defining the valid target.

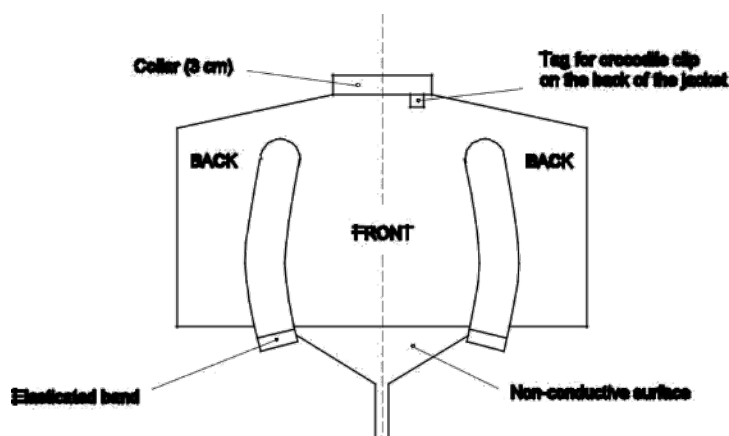


Figure 25: Sabre conductive jacket

Proposal 73

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.31

Motivation: The current Article m.31 “Bodywire” (old m.31, épée-specific) describes the épée bodywire wire insulation, plug construction, pin assignments, guard-end attachment, and insulating sheath requirements. The restructured Article m.31 “Breeches Requirements” replaces the épée-specific bodywire article with a dedicated breeches requirements article. The épée bodywire provisions from old m.31 are now covered under m.38 “Épée Body Wire.” The restructured m.31 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 breeches and clothing provisions and consolidates breeches construction, material specifications, and length and fastening requirements into three dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the épée-specific bodywire article with a dedicated breeches requirements article
2. Moves épée bodywire provisions to m.38 (Épée Body Wire)
3. Consolidates breeches requirements from old m.25 clothing provisions into a single article
4. Adds explicit material specifications and length and fastening sub-sections

Bodywire Part 4: Breeches

m.31. Breeches Requirements ~~1. a) The conductive wires of the bodywire must be well insulated from each other, insensitive to humidity, and either joined or twisted together. b) The maximum electrical resistance allowed for each of these conductive wires from plug to plug is 1 ohm.~~

1. Material Specifications ~~2. The bodywire has a connecting plug which must be made of a transparent material at each end. In the absence of a security device being fitted to the weapon, a security device must be fitted to the plug of the bodywire.~~

1. The breeches must be made entirely of cloth able to resist a pressure of 800 Newtons.
2. The material must comply with the safety standards and test methods described in this Book and the Materials Homologation Rules.

2. Length and Fastening ~~3. At the spool end, a three-pin male plug is connected to the wire as follows: a. the pin 15 mm from the centre pin to whichever wire is most directly connected to the pointe d'arrêt; b. the centre pin to the other wire on the épée; c. the pin 20 mm from the centre pin to the épée's earth circuit and to the conductive piste.~~

1. The breeches must be fastened below the knees.
2. The fastening system must be secure and must not come undone during competition.
3. The breeches must overlap with socks to ensure complete leg coverage.

~~4. This plug must conform to the conditions of manufacture and mounting specified in Article m.55.~~

~~5. Inside the guard the choice of system is free but the system chosen must comply with the conditions of Article m.5.~~

~~6. In addition, the pins of the plug must not on any account permit contact with the metal of the guard.~~

~~7. The two wires coming from the tip must be protected by two insulating sheaths, one for each wire, from the point where they enter the guard right up to the two insulated connections on the plug socket. In no case may uninsulated wires extend beyond the plug connections (cf. m.5, m.9).~~

Proposal 74

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.32

Motivation: The current Article m.32 “Mask” (old m.32, sabre-specific) describes the sabre mask conductivity, bib covering, trim, electrical contact, and resistance requirements. The restructured Article m.32 “Glove Requirements” replaces the sabre-specific mask article with a comprehensive glove requirements article for all weapons. The sabre mask provisions from old m.32 are now covered under m.28 “Mask Requirements” (Additional Requirements — Sabre). The restructured m.32 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 and m.33 glove provisions and consolidates coverage, construction, material, and weapon-specific requirements into five dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the sabre-specific mask article with a comprehensive glove requirements article for all weapons
2. Moves sabre mask provisions to m.28 (Mask Requirements — Additional Requirements — Sabre)
3. Consolidates glove requirements from old m.25 and m.33 into a single article
4. Separates foil-specific and sabre-specific glove requirements into distinct additional requirements sub-sections

Rules Specific to Sabre

Mask Part 5: Glove

m.32. Glove Requirements ~~1. The metal mesh of the mask must not be insulated and must ensure electrical conductivity.~~

1. General Coverage Requirements

1. At all weapons, the gauntlet (cuff) of the glove must, in all circumstances, fully cover approximately half the forearm of the competitor's sword arm.
2. The glove must prevent the opponent's blade from entering the sleeve of the jacket.
3. The gauntlet (cuff) must maintain this coverage and protective function throughout all fencing actions.

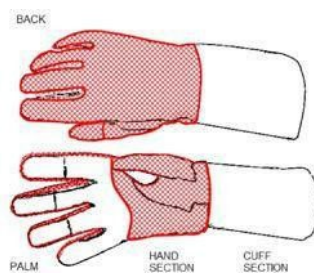


Figure 26: Section of the glove

2. Construction Standards ~~2. The bib and any trim must be entirely covered with conductive material with the same electrical characteristics as the conductive jacket.~~

1. Any hole in the hand of the glove is forbidden.
2. The closure of the glove must be from the middle of the wrist upwards towards the thumb.
3. The glove must be constructed so that seams, closures, and materials do not tear, split, or fail under normal fencing conditions.

3. Material Requirements ~~3. The trim may also be made of conductive material.~~

1. The glove must provide protection consistent with the clothing resistance standards specified in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook for the relevant weapon and area.
2. Under normal fencing conditions, the glove material and seams must not allow penetration or tearing that compromises protection of the hand or forearm

4. Additional Requirements — Foil ~~4. The electrical contact between the conductive jacket and the mask must be ensured by means of a white coloured or clear covered wire with two crocodile clips. The wire must be attached to the mask with one crocodile clip and to the jacket with another crocodile clip. This wire must be between 30cm and 40cm long. A coiled mask wire is not allowed.~~

1. The glove may be slightly padded.
2. Padding, if present, must not alter the fit or compromise the security of the glove.

5. Additional Requirements — Sabre ~~5. — The electrical resistance between the crocodile clip and any point on the mask must be less than 5 ohms. The crocodile clips, the design and size of which must conform to the conditions laid down in Article m.29.2(c), must be soldered to the ends of the wire. In addition, the electrical resistance in this wire (between the two crocodile clips) must not exceed 1 ohm.~~

1. Where the glove forms part of the valid target, it must provide electrical continuity so that hits on the hand register correctly in accordance with the scoring rules for sabre.
2. The material of the fencing glove must have a level of protection of 800 N on the areas shown in the applicable diagram (see Figure 27) ; the seams must have a minimum strength of 200 N, and the cuff must have a level of protection of 350 N.
3. The conductive material, which can be removable or fixed, must cover all of the gauntlet (cuff) of the glove down to below the external cubital styloid (small prominent bone of the wrist), both when the fencer is in the on-guard position and when the sword arm is straight.
4. The conductive material must be turned over into the inside of the gauntlet (cuff) to a depth of at least 5 cm.
5. An elastic band, popper button, or any system which guarantees conductivity and which has been approved by the SEMI Commission must be used.
6. When a conductive overlay is worn, the overlay must contain a device which fixes its position on the arm so that its position cannot be changed during the bout.
7. The conductive material must satisfy the specified control conditions (see m.30.2).

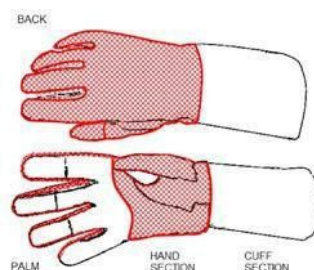


Figure 27: Shaded areas requiring 800N for sabre gloves

Proposal 75

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.33

Motivation: The current Article m.33 “Glove” (old m.33, sabre-specific) describes the sabre glove protection levels, conductive material coverage, gauntlet depth, contact guarantee systems, and lamé control conditions. The restructured Article m.33 “Under-Plastron Requirements” replaces the sabre-specific glove article with a dedicated under-plastron requirements article. The sabre glove

provisions from old m.33 are now covered under m.32 “Glove Requirements” (Additional Requirements — Sabre). The restructured m.33 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 under-plastron provisions and consolidates mandatory use, coverage design, material specifications, and construction requirements into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the sabre-specific glove article with a dedicated under-plastron requirements article
2. Moves sabre glove provisions to m.32 (Glove Requirements — Additional Requirements — Sabre)
3. Consolidates under-plastron requirements from old m.25 into a single article
4. Adds explicit coverage design, material specifications, and construction requirements sub-sections

Glove Part 6: Under-plastron

m.33. Under-plastron Requirements ~~1. The material of the fencing glove must have a level of protection of 800N on the areas shown in the diagram below, the seams a minimum strength of 200N and cuff a level of protection of 350N. The conductive material, which can be removable or fixed, must cover all of the gauntlet of the glove down to below the external cubital styloid (small prominent bone of the wrist), both when the fencer is in the ‘on-guard’ position and when the sword arm is straight. Inside the glove there must be fixed the FIE quality label, granted after the homologation procedure, with the year of manufacture and stating 800N.~~

1. Mandatory Use

1. An undergarment consisting of a protective under plastron is obligatory for all fencers at all weapons.
2. The under plastron must be worn beneath the jacket.

2. Coverage Design ~~2. The conductive material must be turned over into the inside of the gauntlet to a depth of at least 5 cm.~~

1. The under-plastron must cover the vital upper areas of the body.
2. The coverage must follow the design given in this Book and Materials Homologation Handbook.
3. The under-plastron must provide protection for:
 - a. The torso.
 - b. The sword-arm shoulder and upper arm.
 - c. The armpit region of the sword arm

3. Material Specifications ~~3. In order to guarantee a good contact with the sleeve of the conductive jacket, it is necessary to use an elastic band, a popper button or any system which~~

~~will guarantee conductivity and which has been approved by the SEMI Committee. When a conductive overlay is worn, the overlay must contain a device which fixes the position of the overlay on the arm so that its position on the arm cannot be changed during the bout.~~

1. The under-plastron must be made of material resistant to 800 Newtons.
2. The material must provide protection consistent with the clothing resistance standards specified in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.
3. The under-plastron must maintain its specified protective properties throughout its service life under normal fencing conditions.

4. Construction Requirements ~~4. — The conductive tissue (lamé) must satisfy the specified control conditions (cf m.28.5)~~

1. The under-plastron must be constructed without openings or gaps that could compromise protection.
2. Seams must be constructed to maintain the 800 Newton resistance standard.
3. The under-plastron must fit securely without shifting during fencing actions.

Proposal 76

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.34

Motivation: The current Article m.34 “Conductive jacket” (old m.34, sabre-specific) describes the sabre conductive over-jacket coverage, arm coverage, collar, fastening, lamé testing, sleeve fixation, and leg strap requirements. The restructured Article m.34 “Chest Protector Requirements” replaces the sabre-specific conductive jacket article with a dedicated chest protector requirements article. The sabre conductive jacket provisions from old m.34 are now covered under m.30 “Conductive Jacket Requirements” (Additional Requirements — Sabre). The restructured m.34 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 chest protector provisions and consolidates mandatory and optional use, construction standards, material and design requirements, and foil-specific requirements into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the sabre-specific conductive jacket article with a dedicated chest protector requirements article
2. Moves sabre conductive jacket provisions to m.30 (Conductive Jacket Requirements — Additional Requirements — Sabre)
3. Consolidates chest protector requirements from old m.25 into a single article
4. Adds explicit foil-specific additional requirements sub-section for surface treatment

Conductive-jacket Part 7: Chest Protector

m.34. Chest Protector Requirements ~~1. The fencer must wear, over his jacket, a conductive over-jacket, the conductive surface of which must cover entirely and without omission the valid surface of the body above a horizontal line which, when the fencer is on guard, joins, round the fencer's trunk, the tops of the two hip bones.~~

1. Mandatory and Optional Use

1. At all weapons, the use of a chest protector is:
 - a. Compulsory for women.
 - b. Optional for men.
2. The chest protector must be worn in accordance with weapon-specific requirements set out in this Book and in the Materials Homologation Handbook.

2. General Construction Standards ~~2. — The conductive surface must cover the arms as far as the wrists. The jacket must have a collar which is at least 3 cm high. The jacket must have a conductive flap, minimum 2 cm x 3 cm in the middle of the back, just below the collar, to which the crocodile clip from the mask can be attached.~~

1. The chest protector must be made of material capable of distributing impact force.
2. The chest protector must fit securely and must not shift during fencing actions.
3. The chest protector must not impede freedom of movement necessary for fencing.

3. Material and Design Requirements ~~3. — Whatever means of fastening is used, the conductive material must be ample enough to guarantee covering the valid target area in any position.~~

1. The rigid material must withstand the impact of normal weapon strikes without cracking or deforming in a way that reduces protection.
2. The design must provide the required protection without creating bulk that interferes with proper fencing movements or the fit of other protective clothing.
3. The chest protector must be worn in the correct position to protect the vital upper areas of the body.

4. Additional Requirements — Foil ~~4. — The conductive material (lamé) must satisfy the conditions laid down for testing (cf. m.28).~~

1. At foil, the chest protector must be worn below the protective plastron / under-plastron.
2. A surface treatment for foil chest protectors is required to prevent the chest protector from causing non-valid hits to register on the scoring apparatus.
3. The surface treatment for foil chest protectors:

- a. Must consist of a soft material such as ethylene-vinyl acetate (E.V.A.) covering the entire surface of the chest protector on the side facing the opponent.
- b. The E.V.A. material must have a thickness of 4 mm and a density of 22 kg/m³.
- c. The material must be either attached to the chest protector or incorporated into it as a single unit.
- d. The material must have the SEMI technical mark at the center of the upper edge.

~~5. The sleeves of the conductive jacket must be fixed at the wrist by means of an elastic band. There must be a strap passing between the fencer's legs to keep the jacket in place (see Figure 45).~~

Proposal 77

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.35

Motivation: The current Article m.35 "Bodywire and plugs" (old m.35, sabre-specific) states that the sabre fencer must use the foil bodywire configuration. The restructured Article m.35 "Sock Requirements" replaces the sabre-specific bodywire reference with a dedicated sock requirements article. The sabre bodywire provisions from old m.35 are now covered under m.39 "Sabre Body Wire." The restructured m.35 draws its content from the old M Book's m.25 sock and clothing provisions and consolidates length and coverage, fastening, uniform standards, and turn-over allowances into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the sabre-specific bodywire reference with a dedicated sock requirements article
2. Moves sabre bodywire provisions to m.39 (Sabre Body Wire)
3. Consolidates sock requirements from old m.25 clothing provisions into a single article
4. Adds explicit uniform standards and turn-over allowances sub-sections

Bodywire and plugs Part 8: Socks

m.35. Sock Requirements ~~1. — The fencer must use the bodywire specified for foil, plugged into the guard plug socket by means of any system which conforms with the conditions for manufacture and assembly laid down in Articles m.5, m.29 and m.55.~~

1. Length and Coverage Requirements

1. With breeches, the fencer must wear socks which cover the legs right up to the breeches.
2. There must be no gap between the top of the socks and the bottom of the breeches.

3. The socks must provide complete coverage of the lower leg.

2. Fastening Requirements

1. Socks must be held up in such a way that they cannot fall during competition.
2. The fastening system (elastic, garters, or other means) must be secure and reliable.
3. Socks must maintain their position during all fencing actions.

3. Uniform Standards

1. Both socks worn by the fencer must match the same design and color.
2. Socks must conform to the national uniform standards set out in Article m.26.5 and in this Book.

4. Turn-Over Allowances

1. The fencer is permitted to wear socks with a 10 cm turn-over showing the colors of their national team.
2. If a turn-over is worn, it must be consistent on both legs (see m.27.5-m.27.6).

Proposal 78

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.36

Motivation: The current Article m.36 “Checking of Material Competence” (old m.36) describes the SEMI Commission’s supervision of electrical material checking at World Championships and Olympic Games, committee appointment, and right of seizure. The restructured Article m.36 “Body Wire Requirements — General” replaces the material competence checking article with a comprehensive general body wire requirements article applicable to all weapons. The material competence checking provisions from old m.36 are now covered under Chapter 5 “Weapons Control.” The restructured m.36 draws its content from the common bodywire provisions across old m.29, m.31, and m.35 and consolidates general construction, electrical resistance standards, plug and socket requirements, and testing compliance into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the material competence checking article with a comprehensive general body wire requirements article
2. Moves material competence checking provisions to Chapter 5 (Weapons Control)
3. Consolidates common bodywire requirements from old m.29, m.31, and m.35 into a single article
4. Adds explicit electrical resistance standards, plug and socket requirements, and testing compliance sub-sections

Chapter 3. ~~Checking of Material Competence~~ Part 9: Body Wire and Electrical Connections

m.36. Body Wire Requirements — General ~~1.—The checking of the electrical material used by the organisers for the World Championships (Open, Junior and Cadet) and the fencing competitions of the Olympic Games, as well as the checking of the fencers' equipment, must be supervised by the SEMI Committee.~~

1. General Construction

1. The conductive wires of the body wire must be insulated electrically from each other.
2. Wires must be twisted or joined together and must not be affected by humidity.
3. Any external sheath or covering of the body wire must be made of white-colored or clear material.
4. The body wire must be constructed to withstand repeated flexing and use.
5. The body wire must maintain electrical integrity throughout its length during all fencing actions.

2. Electrical Resistance Standards ~~2.—To carry out this supervision, three members of the above mentioned Committee must be appointed and put in charge of this work. However, when the organising country possesses somebody competent, recognised as such by the SEMI, two members of the above Committee will be appointed.~~

1. The electrical resistance of each conductive wire (plug to plug) must not exceed 1 ohm.
2. Body wires that exceed the resistance limit must not be used in competition.
3. Resistance must be measured in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.

3. Plug and Socket Requirements ~~3.—The delegates of the SEMI Committee of the FIE have the right at any time to seize a weapon, a bodywire, a conductive jacket or any item of equipment or clothing for examination.~~

1. The body wire must have a connecting plug at each end (see weapon-side socket requirements in m.8, m.17 and m.25, and Chapter 4).
2. Plugs must be made of transparent material to allow visual inspection.
3. If no securing device is fitted on the weapon-side socket assembly, a securing device must be fitted on the corresponding plug of the body wire.
4. The securing device must prevent the body wire from becoming accidentally unplugged during the bout while still allowing deliberate disconnection when not fencing.

4. Testing and Compliance

1. The body wire must be tested in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.

2. Any body wire that does not meet the resistance requirements must not be used in competition.

Proposal 79

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.37

Motivation: The current Article m.37 “Checking of Fencers’ Equipment” (old m.37) describes fencer responsibility for equipment, label of guarantee requirements, checking procedures, and committee appointments for equipment checking. The restructured Article m.37 “Foil Body Wire” replaces the fencers’ equipment checking article with a dedicated foil body wire requirements article. The equipment checking provisions from old m.37 are now covered under Chapter 5 “Weapons Control.” The restructured m.37 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.29 foil bodywire provisions and consolidates body wire configuration, earth wire to conductive jacket connection, and mask-to-jacket connection wire into three dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the fencers’ equipment checking article with a dedicated foil body wire requirements article
2. Moves equipment checking provisions to Chapter 5 (Weapons Control)
3. Consolidates foil bodywire requirements from old m.29 into a single dedicated article
4. Adds explicit mask-to-jacket connection wire sub-section

Checking of Fencers’ Equipment

m.37. Foil Body Wire ~~1. —In all official FIE competitions the fencers are responsible for their equipment (including weapons and clothes) at the moment they present themselves on the piste.~~

1. Body Wire Configuration

1. The foil body wire must have three conductors.
2. At the spool end, the three-pin male plug will be attached to the wires in the following manner:
 - a. The pin at 15 mm from the center pin: to the conductive jacket.
 - b. The central pin: to the wire in the weapon.
 - c. The pin at 20 mm from the center pin: to earth.
3. At the weapon end, the two-pin plug is attached:
 - a. One pin: to the weapon wire.
 - b. One pin: to earth (guard/blade).

2. Earth Wire to Conductive Jacket Connection ~~2. In particular blades, masks and clothing must all carry the label of guarantee specified in the safety standards annexed to these Rules.~~

1. The earth wire with a crocodile clip must connect the body wire to the conductive jacket.
2. The crocodile clip must be soldered to the wire.
3. The electrical resistance in this connection must not exceed 1 ohm.
4. The crocodile clip design and size must conform to specified conditions in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.

3. Mask-to-Jacket Connection Wire ~~3. The forms of checking laid down by these Rules are only intended to help organisers who must apply the Rules and fencers who must always respect these Rules. These checks can, therefore, in no way absolve any fencers who break the Rules from responsibility.~~

1. The electrical contact between the conductive jacket and the bib of the mask must be ensured by means of a wire with two crocodile clips:
 - a. One crocodile clip attaches to the conductive flap on the back of the jacket.
 - b. The other crocodile clip attaches to the conductive bib of the mask.
2. This wire must be between 30 cm and 40 cm long.
3. A coiled mask wire is not allowed.
4. The electrical resistance between the two crocodile clips must not exceed 1 ohm.
5. Resistance must be measured in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.

Body responsible for checks

- ~~4. 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.~~
- ~~5. For other official FIE competitions the Organising Committee will appoint one or more persons to be responsible for this checking.~~

Proposal 80

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.38

Motivation: The current Article m.38 "Presentation of equipment to the Weapon Checking Centre" (old m.38) describes fencer obligations for equipment presentation, submission procedures, checking timelines, delegation responsibilities, defective weapon handling, mask safety enforcement, equipment return, and conductive jacket marking. The restructured Article m.38 "Épée Body Wire" replaces the equipment presentation article with a dedicated épée body wire requirements article. The equipment presentation provisions from old m.38 are now covered under

Chapter 5 “Weapons Control.” The restructured m.38 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.31 épée bodywire provisions and consolidates épée body wire configuration and épée-specific connection requirements into two dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the equipment presentation article with a dedicated épée body wire requirements article
2. Moves equipment presentation provisions to Chapter 5 (Weapons Control)
3. Consolidates épée bodywire requirements from old m.31 into a single dedicated article
4. Specifies that épée does not require conductive clothing connection

~~Presentation of equipment to the Weapon Checking Centre~~

m.38. ~~Épée Body Wire~~ ~~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 bodywires, 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.~~

1. Épée Body Wire Configuration

1. The épée body wire must have three conductors.
2. At the spool end, the three-pin male plug is connected in the standard configuration:
 - a. One pin: to the first weapon wire (connected to tip).
 - b. One pin: to the second weapon wire (connected to tip).
 - c. One pin: to earth (the guard and blade).
3. At the weapon end, the three-pin plug connects to the socket assembly inside the guard:
 - a. Two pins connect to the two wires from the tip assembly
 - b. One pin connects to earth (the guard and blade)

2. No Conductive Clothing Connection — Épée ~~2.— Each competitor must submit his weapons in a fencing bag at the Weapon Checking Centre reception. An inventory of the equipment is made by an organising official and a label is put on the bag, indicating the name of the country of the competitor. The bags are stored in the order in which they arrive, and are checked in the same order.~~

1. The épée body wire does not require connection to any conductive clothing.
2. The body wire connects only to the weapon and to the spool.

- ~~3. Provision should be made for weapons and clothing to be submitted on the morning of the day before the competition. Having been checked, the material will be returned to the delegations at the end of the day. Weapons, equipment and clothing presented to the Checking Centre after 5 p.m. on the day before each event may be refused.~~
- ~~4. Each head of delegation must indicate where he can be contacted should a serious fault be detected while the equipment belonging to his fencers is being checked.~~
- ~~5. If a weapon is found to be defective at the first check a form is attached indicating the fault: e.g. the length of the blade, the insulation, the spring of the point, cutting edges, etc. This form is completed at the second check. However, when a weapon is rejected, it must go through the entire cycle again.~~
- ~~6. 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.~~
- ~~7. 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.~~
- ~~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.~~

Proposal 81

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.39

Motivation: The current Article m.39 (old m.39) states that if material or equipment appears to have been assembled to control hit registration or cause apparatus malfunction, the SEMI Commission representative may require a penalty. The restructured Article m.39 “Sabre Body Wire” replaces the penalty provision with a dedicated sabre body wire requirements article. The penalty provision from old m.39 is now covered under Chapter 5 “Weapons Control.” The restructured m.39 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.35 sabre bodywire provisions and the common foil bodywire structure, and consolidates sabre body wire configuration, guard socket requirements, earth wire to conductive jacket connection, and mask-to-jacket connection wire into four dedicated sub-sections. This reorganization:

1. Replaces the material assembly penalty provision with a dedicated sabre body wire requirements article
2. Moves the penalty provision to Chapter 5 (Weapons Control)
3. Consolidates sabre bodywire requirements from old m.35 and common foil structure into a single dedicated article
4. Adds explicit guard socket requirements and mask-to-jacket connection wire sub-sections

Checking of Fencers' Equipment

m.39. Sabre Body Wire ~~1. If material or equipment presented to the Checking Centre appears to have been assembled in such a way that the fencer can control at will the registering of hits or the malfunctioning of the judging apparatus, the representative of the SEMI Committee may, after the examination of the irregular items, require a penalty against the person who submitted them.~~

1. Sabre Body Wire Configuration

1. The sabre body wire must have three conductors and is similar in construction to the foil body wire.
2. At the weapon end, the plug connects to the socket assembly inside the guard.
3. When attached to the spool and weapon, the body wire must maintain electrical contact with the guard of the weapon.

2. Guard Socket Requirements

1. Inside the guard there must be a socket into which the body wire is plugged.
2. The socket assembly must ensure reliable electrical contact during all fencing actions.
3. The socket assembly must be secured to prevent disconnection during the bout.

3. Earth Wire to Conductive Jacket Connection

1. The body wire must maintain electrical continuity between the scoring apparatus and the conductive surfaces (weapon and jacket).
2. The two sockets of the body wire plug must be in direct contact with the body of the guard, making a closed electrical circuit through:
 - a. The body wire.
 - b. The spool.
 - c. The cable connecting the spool to the scoring apparatus.

4. Mask-to-Jacket Connection Wire

1. The electrical contact between the conductive jacket and the mask must be ensured by means of a wire with two crocodile clips.
 - a. One crocodile clip attaches to the conductive flap on the back of the jacket.
 - b. The other crocodile clip attaches to the mask.
2. This wire must be between 30 cm and 40 cm long.
3. A coiled mask wire is not allowed.
4. The electrical resistance between the two crocodile clips must not exceed 1 ohm.
5. Resistance must be measured in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.

Proposal 82

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.40

Motivation: The current Article m.40 (old m.40) is a check-marks header article with no substantive content. The restructured Article m.40 “General Provisions - Scoring Apparatus and Infrastructure” replaces this empty header with a comprehensive scope, definitions, and reference documents article for the entire scoring apparatus chapter. The restructured m.40 establishes the organizational framework for Chapter 4, defining key terms and cross-referencing the Materials Homologation Handbook.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces an empty header article with a substantive general provisions article for Chapter 4
 2. Establishes clear scope covering central scoring apparatus, connection systems, pistes, power supplies, and display systems
 3. Provides formal definitions for key technical terms used throughout the chapter
 4. Adds reference document and technical specifications amendment provisions
-

Chapter 4: Scoring Apparatus and Infrastructure

Part 1: Scope, Definitions and Reference Documents

m.40. General Provisions - Scoring Apparatus and Infrastructure (all weapons)

1. Scope

1. This Chapter covers the requirements for:
 - a. Central scoring apparatus (m.42–m.45).
 - b. Connection systems, including spools, cables, and suspended systems (m.48–m.49).
 - c. Conductive pistes (m.50).
 - d. Source of electrical current (m.51).
 - e. Extension lamps and display systems (m.52–m.53).
2. These provisions apply to all official FIE competitions and are recommended for all fencing venues using electrical scoring equipment.

2. Definitions

For the purposes of this Chapter, the following terms apply:

1. Central scoring apparatus: The electrical device that receives signals from the fencers' weapons via connection systems and indicates valid and non-valid hits through visual and audible signals.
2. Extension lamps: External light signals placed outside the central apparatus to increase visibility of hit registration for referees, fencers, and spectators.
3. Display board / Central display apparatus: Electronic scoreboard displaying fencers' names, scores, time, period, and penalty cards, required for finals and higher-level competition rounds.
4. Prototype: A complete sample apparatus (including spools, connections, and all ancillary equipment) submitted for examination and approval by the SEMI Commission prior to use in official FIE competitions.
5. Homologation: The formal approval process for equipment and materials as specified in the Materials Homologation Handbook, separate from event-specific apparatus approval.
6. Connection system: The complete electrical path from the central apparatus to the fencer, including spools or suspended cables, connecting cables, plugs, sockets, and safety devices.
7. Conductive piste: The metallic or conductive surface covering the fencing area, used to neutralize hits made on the floor in foil and sabre.

3. Reference Documents

1. The functional and construction requirements of this Chapter are complemented by the Materials Homologation Handbook, which contains detailed numerical tolerances, test methods, and conformity assessment procedures for scoring apparatus and related equipment.
2. Where this Chapter specifies performance requirements, the Materials Homologation Handbook specifies how conformance is verified

4. Technical Specifications Amendments

The SEMI Commission can propose variances in the timing specifications for any apparatus in the light of experience, laboratory tests, and consultation with other Commissions.

Proposal 83

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.41

Motivation: The current Article m.41 (old m.41) describes check mark requirements for checked equipment and repair procedures. The restructured Article m.41 "Authorization of Apparatus" replaces the check mark requirements article with a comprehensive apparatus authorization article. The check mark provisions from old m.41 are now covered under Chapter 5 "Weapons and Equipment Control." The restructured m.41 draws its content from the old M Book's m.44

(authorised designs), m.46–m.49 (approval scope, identification, disclaimer, costs) provisions and consolidates authorized apparatus designs, scope of approval, identification, disclaimer, and cost provisions into five dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the check mark requirements article with a comprehensive apparatus authorization article
2. Moves check mark provisions to Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control)
3. Consolidates authorization, approval scope, identification, and cost provisions from old m.44–m.49 into a single article
4. Adds explicit disclaimer of guarantee and costs of examination sub-sections

m.41. Authorization of Apparatus (all weapons) ~~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.~~

1. Authorized Apparatus Designs

1. Only electrical apparatus designed with wires connecting fencers to the central apparatus and registering hits by light signals with auxiliary sound signals are authorized.
2. Apparatus without wires using encoded waves authorized by the SEMI are permitted.
3. Apparatus based on wireless waves and those which register sound signals only, are excluded.

2. Scope of Approval ~~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.~~

1. Apparatus approval is design-specific; the manufacturer is responsible for ensuring that all apparatus supplied for competition conform to the approved design and meet all technical requirements at the time of use.
2. The SEMI Commission is willing to examine prototypes submitted by constructors even if not intended for an imminent official competition.
3. Approval is given only for one established design which conforms to the drawing submitted, not as a general approval for all products made by any manufacturer.
4. Manufacturers may state in publicity only that the design has been used at a specific official competition, but they must guarantee the apparatus conforms to the approved design.

3. Identification and Liability

1. Every approved apparatus must carry, on its base, a metallic plate identifying its specific characteristics (manufacturer, year of manufacture, model, technical information).

4. Disclaimer of Guarantee

Approval by the SEMI Commission and its acceptance implies no guarantee against possible faults of construction or use with a source of electrical current other than accumulators.

5. Costs of Examination

All expenses incurred by the SEMI Commission for examination of apparatus are the responsibility of the persons submitting the apparatus.

Proposal 84

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.42

Motivation: The current Article m.42 (old m.42) describes the personnel and equipment required for checking weapons at competitions, including gauge specifications, testing devices, and workshop team organization. The restructured Article m.42 “Core Functional and Safety Requirements of Apparatus” replaces the checking personnel article with a comprehensive functional and safety requirements article for all scoring apparatus. The personnel and equipment checking provisions from old m.42 are now covered under Chapter 5 “Weapons and Equipment Control.” The restructured m.42 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.50–m.51 (requirements for electrical equipment) provisions and consolidates hit registration, visual signals, power supply, clock, remote control, and audible signal requirements into fifteen dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the checking personnel and equipment article with a comprehensive apparatus functional requirements article
2. Moves personnel and equipment checking provisions to Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control)
3. Consolidates apparatus functional requirements from old m.50–m.51 into a single article
4. Adds explicit clock resolution, VRS time output, referee remote control, and audible signal failsafe sub-sections

Personnel and equipment required for checking

m.42. Core Functional and Safety Requirements of Apparatus (all weapons) ~~1.—In order to allow those carrying out the checking to fulfil their task, the organisers are required to make available the equipment and the personnel necessary to carry out the work.~~

1. Registration and Non-registration of Hits

1. A hit made on the conductive piste or on the metallic parts of the weapon must not be registered by the apparatus.
2. Such hits may not prevent the registering of a hit made simultaneously by the opponent.

2. Protection Against Unauthorized Interruption ~~2. — The Organising Committee must provide the FIE technical delegates responsible for checking the weapons and equipment with at least the following apparatus: a. Two gauges allowing the lengths of blades and the depths and diameters of the guards at all weapons to be measured quickly. b. Devices for measuring the flexibility of blades and the resistance of the mesh of masks. c. An electrical checking device to check quickly the electrical resistance and that the bodywire and the weapon are correctly assembled. d. Weights of 750 g and 500 g to test the springs of the points in épée and foil, in the workshop and at each piste. e. A device allowing the lighting stroke and residual travel of épée points to be accurately measured, in the workshop and at each piste. f. Labels to indicate that a weapon has been checked and that it satisfies the regulation, or has been rejected. g. In the world championships and Olympic Games the control of blades by Foucault current is mandatory. h. The organisers must provide a special stamp to be affixed to each conductive jacket to enable the referees to verify that its resistance in ohms has been checked by the technical delegates of the FIE. i. A special ink or paint must be provided to mark the guards, blades and points of weapons which have been checked. Nevertheless, those responsible may use other methods to mark the weapon and conductive jackets.~~

The apparatus must not have any device whereby anyone other than the person detailed to supervise it can interrupt its working during a bout.

3. Visual Signals

1. The apparatus should have a pilot light to show that it is switched on. This light must be dim and colorless.
2. The signal lamps must be placed on the top of the apparatus, in order that they may be visible to the Referee, the competitors and the superintendent of the apparatus. They must be so positioned that they show clearly from which side the hit was made.
3. Signal lamps may be fitted with translucent covers. These covers must be removable to allow the use of uncovered lights when venue conditions require it, such as strong sunlight or outdoor competition.
4. It must be possible to attach extension lamps to the exterior of the apparatus to increase the visibility of the signals.

4. Signal Persistence

1. Signal lamps, once activated, must remain lit until the apparatus is reset.
2. Signals must not extinguish or flicker due to subsequent hits or vibrations.

5. Reset Controls

The resetting switches must be placed either on top of or on the front part of the apparatus.

6. Power Supply

1. Apparatus must always be equipped with a socket to allow it to be powered either by 12 V DC via AC/DC converter or through VRLA batteries.
2. Apparatus must be based on a 12 volt supply with a tolerance of $\pm 5\%$.
3. If the apparatus is constructed to operate with dry batteries, it must be equipped with a voltmeter or some other device enabling the power in the batteries to be checked at any moment.
4. The wiring must be designed so that apparatus cannot become connected by mistake directly to the mains supply.

7. Integrated Clock and Score Display

1. Each central scoring apparatus used in official competitions must include an integrated match clock and score display (see m.43-m.45).
2. The clock and score display form part of the functional configuration of the apparatus for the purposes of approval and use.
3. The clock and score display must be clearly visible at all times to:
 - a. The Referee.
 - b. Both fencers.
 - c. Coaches and team officials in the field of play area.
 - d. Spectators in the competition hall.
4. Visibility must be ensured under normal indoor lighting conditions and under enhanced lighting used for finals and television production.
5. Any external scoreboard or display board used in addition to the central scoring apparatus must reproduce, without modification, the match time and scores generated by the approved apparatus.

8. Clock Resolution and Measurement Capability

1. The match clock must be capable of measuring and internally tracking time in units of one hundredth of a second for the entire duration of each bout and team relay
2. The internal time base stability and precision tolerances are specified in the Materials Homologation Handbook.
3. Any user visible display that presents the official bout time (on the central apparatus or on external display boards) must reproduce the time generated by this clock without applying independent rounding or filtering operations

9. Time Output to Video Refereeing System (VRS)

1. The central scoring apparatus must provide an electronic time output to the official Video Refereeing System.

2. The time output to the VRS must carry the current match time expressed in hundredths of a second, synchronized with the internal match clock described in this Book (m.42).
3. The time output interface, format, and update rate must comply with the specifications defined in the applicable Materials Homologation Handbook and any technical handbooks for scoring apparatus and video systems.
4. When the match clock is started, stopped, or reset, the corresponding state change must be reflected in the time output to the VRS without undue delay or loss of events, within the tolerances specified in the technical handbooks

10. Last Ten Seconds Display Behavior

During the last ten (10) seconds of each period in an individual bout and of each bout in a team match, the official match clock must change its display resolution to provide enhanced time indication.

1. The clock must show time to a tenth of second when the scoring apparatus is running
2. The clock must show time to a hundredth of second when the scoring apparatus is stopped
3. The timer should be provided with a remote start/stop device.

11. Clock Extensions for Finals

1. For finals of official FIE competitions, the clock must be equipped with:
 - a. A system connecting it to external extension clocks displaying large luminous numbers
 - b. A system for connection of the audible signal
2. These connection systems must be electrically isolated from the internal circuits of the apparatus in accordance with the specifications in the Materials Homologation Handbook.
3. The clock and remote control must operate the match clock defined in m.42.

12. Referee Remote Control- General Requirements

1. The match clock of the central scoring apparatus must be controlled by a remote control device intended for the Referee.
2. The remote control must provide a single, clearly identifiable control for the combined start–stop function of the match clock; no additional timing or reset functions may be assigned to the remote.
3. The remote control must be equipped with a visible LED indicator that confirms the operational status of the device and each transmitted command.
4. The design of the remote control must minimize the risk of accidental activation, taking into account typical Referee gestures and handling during a bout, as further specified in the applicable technical handbook

13. Referee Remote Control- Radio Communication

1. The communication between the Referee's remote control and the match clock must operate via encrypted radio frequencies.
2. The radio protocol, frequency bands, encryption requirements, and coexistence rules with other wireless systems in the venue must comply with the specifications defined in the Materials Homologation Handbook and with all applicable regulatory requirements.
3. The radio link must be sufficiently robust that loss of connection, interference, or low battery conditions cannot cause unintended clock start or stop; any such fault conditions must default to a safe state defined in the technical handbooks

14. Audible Signals

1. Visual signals must be accompanied simultaneously by audible signals.
2. The audible signals will consist either of a short ring, or of a continuous note.
3. Duration must be automatically limited to one to two seconds.
4. The sound signal must be identical for both sides of the apparatus.
5. The apparatus may include a device which allows the sound signal to be stopped before the apparatus is reset.

15. Audible Signal Failsafe

When the cable connecting the audible-signal apparatus to the clock is disconnected:

1. The audible-signal apparatus must emit a sound of 80–100 decibels measured at the piste center line.
2. Duration must be 2–3 seconds.
3. The central judging apparatus must not be blocked.
4. The clock must not be stopped. (t.32)

Proposal 85

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.43

Motivation: The current Article m.43 (old m.43) describes workshop team procedures for checking weapons and equipment, specifying team composition and roles for dimension checks, electrical tests, and marking. The restructured Article m.43 “Foil Central Judging Apparatus” replaces the workshop procedures article with a dedicated foil-specific central judging apparatus article. The workshop procedures from old m.43 are now covered under Chapter 5 “Weapons and Equipment Control.” The restructured m.43 draws its content from the old M Book’s Annex B foil apparatus specifications and consolidates foil apparatus function, hit registration, visual signals, sensitivity, resistance tolerance, lockout operation, and testing requirements into seven dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the workshop team procedures with a dedicated foil central judging apparatus article
 2. Moves workshop checking procedures to Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control)
 3. Consolidates foil-specific apparatus requirements from old Annex B into a single dedicated article
 4. Adds explicit sensitivity, resistance tolerance, lockout operation, and testing sub-sections
-

m.43. Foil Central Judging Apparatus ~~1. ——— To carry out the checks properly and rapidly, 'workshop' teams of three people should be used. (At least three such workshops should be provided.)~~

1. Foil - Apparatus Main Function

In addition to the core functional requirements of m.42, the central judging apparatus for foil must comply with the following:

1. At foil, the apparatus registers when a break occurs in the circuit of the foil.
2. The electrical current which is circulating permanently in the foil circuit is broken when a hit is made.

2. Foil - Registration of Hits ~~2. ——— The first person checks that all the weapons are normal with respect to their dimensions by passing them through a gauge.~~

1. Any hit must cause a signal whatever the resistance of the circuits external to the apparatus.
2. A hit made on a part of the foil may register if an uninsulated part of the weapon of the fencer is in contact with his conductive jacket.
3. After registering a hit, whether on target or off target, the apparatus must no longer be able to register a subsequent hit on the same side of the apparatus.
4. No priority must be indicated between a hit registered against one competitor and a hit registered against his opponent.

3. Foil - Visual Signals ~~3. ——— The second does all electrical tests.~~

1. Hits are registered by light signals:
 - a. A red signal on one side when a hit is registered on target;
 - b. A green signal on the other when a hit is registered on target;
 - c. White signals on either side will indicate hits off the target.
2. At foil, when using the apparatus it should be noted that:
 - a. If a non-valid hit has been scored, the apparatus will not register a possible valid hit scored on the same side of the apparatus.
 - b. The apparatus does not indicate whether there is any priority in time between two or more hits which it registers simultaneously.

3. Yellow lamps serve only to indicate insulation faults (see m.43.5)

4. Foil - Sensitivity and Signal Registration ~~4. — The third affixes the checking marks and replaces the weapons in the fencing bag.~~

1. Any hit must cause a signal whatever the resistance of the circuits external to the apparatus. The duration of the break of contact which must always ensure that a signal is registered is $14 \text{ ms} \pm 1 \text{ ms}$
2. Depending on the increase in the resistance, the apparatus may register:
 - a. A valid hit only.
 - b. A valid hit and a non-valid hit simultaneously.
 - c. A non-valid hit only.
 - d. The resistance must always be less than 500 ohms for (a) and (b).
3. The contact time is the same for valid and non-valid hits.
4. The registering of a valid hit must be guaranteed when there is a break of contact of $14 \text{ ms} \pm 1 \text{ ms}$, when the exterior resistance is between 0 and 500 ohms.
5. A break of contact of $14 \text{ ms} \pm 1 \text{ ms}$ must always ensure that a signal is registered, when the exterior resistance is between 0 and 200 ohms.

5. Foil - Resistance Tolerance and Fault Conditions

1. The apparatus must be capable of tolerating an increase in the resistance in the closed circuit of the foils of up to 200 ohms, without causing a non-valid signal to register.
2. Even if the resistance of the foil earth circuit is increased up to 100 ohms, none of the following irregular phenomena must occur:
 - a. Hits are registered on the guard or on the piste;
 - b. Hits must not be registered merely by contact of the blade or the pointe arrêt (without depressing it) on the conductive jacket of either competitor.
3. When the blades are in contact, irrespective of the resistance in ohms between them, the apparatus must be capable of registering normally the hits exchanged, valid and non-valid.
4. Even if a fault in the insulation causes a short between a fencer's conductive jacket and weapon, the apparatus must still register both valid and non-valid hits.
5. The apparatus must be equipped with two yellow lamps:
 - a. The yellow lamp must light up and remain lit when the resistance between a fencer's conductive jacket and weapon is less than 450 ohms
 - b. The yellow lamp must not light up when this resistance exceeds 475 ohms.
6. If one or both of the yellow lamps remain lit, the Referee must stop the bout and call the technical experts to eliminate the fault.
7. The yellow lamps need not indicate any contact between the fencer's conductive jacket and the conductive piste.

6. Foil Lockout Operation

1. After the first hit is signaled, the apparatus must ignore all subsequent signals once the lockout period of 300 ms (± 25 ms) has elapsed.
2. This lockout period is a fixed technical interval unrelated to “fencing time” under the conventions of foil fencing.

7. Foil Testing and Authorization

1. Test programs for foil apparatus are defined in the Materials Homologation Handbook.
2. The Congress of the FIE has authorized this Committee to modify or add to the above requirements whenever technical improvements allow the construction of apparatus which can ensure the better operation of the electrical foil judging apparatus.

Proposal 86

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.44

Motivation: The current Article m.44 (old m.44) provides an introduction listing all electrical judging equipment provided by competition organisers, including the central apparatus, spools, conductive piste, power supply, and clock. The restructured Article m.44 “Épée Central Judging Apparatus” replaces the general equipment introduction with a dedicated épée-specific central judging apparatus article. The general equipment listing provisions from old m.44 are now covered under m.40 (General Provisions). The restructured m.44 draws its content from the old M Book’s Annex B épée apparatus specifications and consolidates épée apparatus function, visual signals, resistance and timing, and lockout operation into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the general equipment introduction with a dedicated épée central judging apparatus article
2. Moves general equipment listing to m.40 (General Provisions)
3. Consolidates épée-specific apparatus requirements from old Annex B into a single dedicated article
4. Adds explicit visual signals, resistance and timing, and lockout operation sub-sections

PART 2. FITTINGS AND MATERIAL PROVIDED BY THE ORGANISERS

Introduction

m.44. Épée Central Judging Apparatus ~~1. — All electrical judging equipment includes, in addition to the equipment provided by the fencers themselves, the material provided by the organisers of a competition, which is:~~

1. **Épée Apparatus Main Function**

In addition to the core functional requirements of m.42, the central judging apparatus for épée must comply with the following:

1. At épée, the apparatus registers when contact is established between the wires forming the circuit in the épée, thus completing the circuit.

2. **Épée - Visual Signals** ~~2. — The central judging apparatus, with extension lamps (cf. m.51, m.59, Annexe B);~~

1. Visual signals include at least two signal lamps on each side of the apparatus, so designed that if one lamp does not function it does not prevent the other from lighting up nor cause an excessive current through the latter.
2. The signal lamps must give a red signal on one side of the apparatus and a green signal on the other.
3. The apparatus may include lights which indicate short circuits to earth. These must be orange in color.

3. **Épée - Apparatus Resistance and Timing** ~~3. — The spools, with cables and connections, or cables suspended overhead (cf. m.55);~~

1. The apparatus must register only the first hit which is made when the active circuit is completed (see m.20 for tip assembly travel requirements).
2. If the interval between two hits is less than 40 ms, the apparatus must register a double hit, with both signal lamps lighting simultaneously.
3. If the interval between two hits is greater than 50 ms, the apparatus must register only one hit.
4. The apparatus must not register hits made on earthed material (guard or conductive piste), even when the resistance of the earth circuit is up to 100 ohms.

4. **Épée - Lockout Operation** ~~4. — The conductive piste which neutralises hits made on the ground (cf. m.57);~~

1. When the external resistance is normal, that is 10 ohms, the apparatus must register hits when these are made with a duration of contact of 2–10 ms.
2. With an exceptional external resistance of 100 ohms the apparatus must still register a hit, but without any specific duration of contact.
3. The apparatus must not register signals of less than 2 ms duration.

~~5. The source of electrical current should be 12 V DC via AC/DC converter or through VRLA (valve-regulated lead acid) batteries (cf. m.58).~~

~~6. For finals of official competitions of the FIE, a clock which counts down the time and which can be linked to the apparatus which controls the audible signal and the electrical registering of hits (cf. m.51, Annexe B).~~

~~7. The wireless apparatus is optional at the Veteran World Championships.~~

Proposal 87

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.45

Motivation: The current Article m.45 (old m.45) describes the authorised designs for electrical scoring apparatus, specifying that only wired apparatus with light signals are permitted, with wireless encoded-wave systems also allowed by the SEMI. The restructured Article m.45 “Sabre Central Judging Apparatus” replaces the authorised designs article with a dedicated sabre-specific central judging apparatus article. The authorised designs provisions from old m.45 are now covered under m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus). The restructured m.45 draws its content from the old M Book’s Annex B sabre apparatus specifications and consolidates sabre apparatus function, visual signals, resistance and timing, lockout operation, and timing adjustment into five dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the authorised designs article with a dedicated sabre central judging apparatus article
2. Moves authorised designs provisions to m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus)
3. Consolidates sabre-specific apparatus requirements from old Annex B into a single dedicated article
4. Adds explicit visual signals, resistance and timing, lockout operation, and timing adjustment sub-sections

CHAPTER 1. SCORING

APPARATUS Authorised designs

m.45. Sabre Central Judging Apparatus ~~1. — Only electrical apparatus designed with wires connecting the fencers to the central apparatus and registering hits by light signals with auxiliary sound signals are authorised, except for apparatus without wires using encoded waves authorised by the SEMI. This excludes other apparatus based on wireless waves and those which register sound signals only.~~

1. Sabre Apparatus Main Function

In addition to the core functional requirements of m.42, the central judging apparatus for sabre must comply with the following:

1. The apparatus works by contact between any uninsulated part of the sabre and the conductive surface of the opposing fencer’s jacket, glove and mask.

2. Sabre - Visual Signals

1. For hits made on these valid conductive surfaces, the apparatus shows a red light on one side and a green light on the other.
2. If the guard or blade of a fencer's sabre is in contact with the conductive surface of his own equipment (signaled by a yellow light), a valid hit made by that fencer must still register.
3. The apparatus must be equipped with two yellow lamps, one on each side, which will indicate a contact between the guard or blade of a fencer's sabre and the conductive surface of his own equipment.
4. The apparatus must be equipped with two white lamps, identical to those on a foil apparatus which, if permanently illuminated, accompanied by a sound signal, indicate any abnormal electrical change in circuits B and C of the fencer at fault.
5. Hits made on non-conductive surfaces must not be signaled.

3. Sabre - Apparatus Resistance, Faults, and Timing

1. When the two blades touch, all the other rules should be strictly applied.
2. The apparatus should still function when the blades are in contact, or if there is contact between the blades and the guards, or between the two guards.
3. The apparatus must not signal a hit made by the blade whipping over to hit the opponent while in contact with his blade or guard.
4. After a hit has been registered, a subsequent hit made by the other fencer will only be registered if it occurs within a maximum of $170 \text{ ms} \pm 10 \text{ ms}$.
5. The apparatus should allow an increase in the exterior resistance of the connections up to 100 ohms without any drawbacks.
6. Should a fault in the insulation, down to 0 ohms, cause a leakage of current between a fencer's valid conductive surface and his weapon, the apparatus should still be capable of registering all hits exchanged.
7. The insulation fault will be signaled by the illumination of the yellow lamp on the side of the fencer whose equipment is at fault when the resistance is between 0 and 450 ohms.
8. The registering of a valid hit on the guard or blade of the fencer at fault will be allowed provided that the electrical resistance between the guard or the blade and the valid surface is less than 250 ohms.
9. Should there be a hit made by the whipping over of the blade which has not been signaled, whatever method has been used to prevent the signaling, after $15 \text{ ms} \pm 5 \text{ ms}$ from the contact of the blade with the valid target (the time for the registering of the whip) and unless there has been another hit, the apparatus should allow the normal registering of any subsequent hits.
10. A break in the control circuit (defined as more than 250 ohms) for $3 \text{ ms} \pm 2 \text{ ms}$ will be signaled by the illumination of the white lamp on the side of the fencer at fault.

4. Sabre - Lockout Operation

1. The duration of contact during which a signal should be ensured should be 0.1–1 ms.
2. An apparatus will be rejected if a hit can be registered with a duration of contact of less than 0.1 ms (time subject to modification)
3. If the contact between the blade and the opponent's target takes place 'through the blade', the apparatus:
 - a. Will register the hit between 0 and 4 ms (+ 1 ms);
 - b. Will prevent the hit being registered between 4 and 15 ms (+ 5 ms), on condition that the contact between the two blades is not interrupted more than a maximum of 10 times in the interval.

5. Sabre - Timing Adjustment

Timing for the apparatus may be varied in the light of experience and of laboratory tests carried out by the SEMI Commission.

Proposal 88

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.46

Motivation: The current Article m.46 (old m.46) describes the approval procedure for judging apparatus designs, requiring SEMI Commission approval for World Championship and Olympic Games apparatus, submission of complete apparatus for examination at least six months before competition, and detailed construction drawings. The restructured Article m.46 "Apparatus Selection for FIE Competitions" replaces the approval procedure article with a comprehensive apparatus selection article covering all levels of FIE competitions. The approval procedures from old m.46 are consolidated with selection requirements into three dedicated sub-sections covering general selection conditions, World Championship apparatus, and Olympic Games apparatus.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the approval procedure article with a comprehensive apparatus selection article
2. Consolidates apparatus selection requirements for all FIE competition levels
3. Separates World Championship and Olympic Games apparatus requirements into distinct sub-sections
4. Adds explicit provisions for manufacturer selection and equipment homologation

Approval of designs of apparatus

m.46. Apparatus Selection for FIE Competitions ~~1. Judging apparatus for use in a World Championship or the Olympic Games must have been approved by the SEMI Committee of the FIE.~~

1. Apparatus Selection Conditions

1. For official FIE competitions, the organizing committee must provide a minimum number of electrical judging apparatuses equal to the number of pistes plus at least two spares.
2. The Organizing Committee must choose a manufacturer who will provide good quality equipment for smooth technical running of competitions.
3. For official FIE competitions, all scoring equipment must be in working order and homologated by the SEMI Commission.
4. As soon as a member federation is selected to organize an official FIE competition, it should contact the President of the SEMI Commission immediately to obtain names of manufacturers whose electrical apparatus is accepted by the Committee for use at their level of competition.

2. Apparatus for World Championships ~~2. In order to obtain this approval, the apparatus which it is proposed to use must be submitted complete, with spools, connections, etc., for an examination by the said Committee, at a place and on a date to be agreed with the Committee, at least six months before the date of the competition.~~

1. Judging apparatus for World Championships must be approved for use at the World Championship level.
2. List of approved apparatus for World Championship level competitions can be requested from the SEMI.

3. Apparatus for Olympic Games ~~3. The apparatus must be accompanied by a detailed drawing showing its construction.~~

1. Judging apparatus for the Olympic Games must be approved by the SEMI Commission of the FIE.
2. In order to obtain this approval, the apparatus which it is proposed to use must be submitted complete, with spools, connections, etc., for an examination by a designated team of the SEMI Commission, at a place and on a date to be agreed with by the Committee, at least six months before the start date of the competition.
3. The apparatus must be accompanied by technical documentation, including but not limited to detailed drawings, CAD files, and be submitted digitally to the SEMI Commission and the FIE Office.

Proposal 89

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.47

Motivation: The current Article m.47 (old m.47) states that approval is given for the use of apparatus in one specific official competition only, and that the SEMI Commission is willing to examine prototypes submitted by constructors even outside of imminent official competitions. The

restructured Article m.47 “Apparatus Checking Procedures” replaces the competition-specific approval article with a comprehensive apparatus checking procedures article. The competition-specific approval provision from old m.47 is now covered under m.46 (Apparatus Selection for FIE Competitions). The restructured m.47 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.52–m.53 (checking of apparatuses) provisions and consolidates prototype approval procedures and pre-competition testing into two dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the competition-specific approval article with a comprehensive apparatus checking procedures article
2. Moves competition-specific approval provisions to m.46 (Apparatus Selection for FIE Competitions)
3. Consolidates apparatus checking procedures from old m.52–m.53 into a single article
4. Adds explicit prototype approval procedures and pre-competition testing sub-sections

m.47. Apparatus Checking Procedures ~~1. — Approval is given for the use of the apparatus in one specific official competition only. The SEMI Committee is willing, as far as it is able, and without charge, to examine prototypes of apparatus submitted by constructors even if the use of such apparatus is not envisaged for an imminent official competition.~~

1. Prototypes Approval and Procedures

1. In the case of using a prototype for a World Championships or a FIE competition:
 - a. Having chosen the manufacturer, the Organizing Committee must immediately advise the President of the SEMI Commission.
 - b. The President contacts the firm to obtain, as soon as possible, a prototype of the desired model.
 - c. Control of fencing apparatuses must be done before competition using a checking device able to verify that apparatuses fulfill all requirements related to reaction times and electrical resistances.
2. The report on checking is presented to the manufacturer by the President of the Committee within one month of the apparatus being received.
3. Two possibilities exist:
 - a. The proposed apparatus is accepted, in which case other apparatuses can be manufactured like the prototype.
 - b. The apparatus does not conform to requirements, in which case it must be modified and re-submitted for new examination.
4. When all apparatuses are ready and before they are sent out, the President of the SEMI Commission must be notified for documentation of checking before they leave the factory.
5. Each apparatus comes with a test report giving specifications concerning:
 - a. Registering time in milliseconds

- b. Resistance in ohms of external circuits before registering a non-valid hit
- 6. The person in charge of verification ticks off every apparatus and makes a note of its number.

2. Testing and Checking of Apparatus

1. A specific program of tests for an apparatus under different conditions can be supplied on request by the SEMI Commission of the FIE.
2. A specific program of tests also includes the checking of the functioning of the apparatus including but not limited to timing, lockout, lamp functionality.
3. Before every World Championship or Olympic Games, a delegate of the Organizing Committee must check:
 - a. Proper working of apparatuses to be used.
 - b. That they conform to the type registered. This is independent of the registration of the type of apparatus.
4. The apparatuses must be made available to this delegate at least 48 hours before the beginning of the competition.

Proposal 90

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.48

Motivation: The current Article m.48 (old m.48) specifies that approval is given for only one established design of apparatus conforming to the submitted drawing, not as a general approval for all products by any manufacturer, and that every approved apparatus must carry a metallic identification plate. The restructured Article m.48 “Spools and Cables” replaces the established design and identification article with a dedicated connection systems article. The established design and identification plate provisions from old m.48 are now covered under m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus). The restructured m.48 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.55 (spool and cable specifications) provisions and consolidates electrical resistance requirements, cable length and safety features, plug specifications, and alternative connection systems into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the established design and identification article with a dedicated spools and cables article
2. Moves established design approval and identification plate provisions to m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus)
3. Consolidates spool and cable specifications from old m.55 into a single article
4. Adds explicit resistance requirements, safety features, plug specifications, and alternative systems sub-sections

Part 2: Connection Systems

m.48. Spools and Cables

1. Electrical Resistance Requirements ~~1. Approval is given for only one established design of apparatus which conforms to the drawing submitted, and is not given as a general approval for all the products made by any manufacturer. The latter may state in their publicity only the fact that the design of apparatus which they offer for sale has been used at a specific official competition (if this in fact is the case); but they themselves must guarantee that the apparatus conforms to the design for which approval was given.~~

1. The maximum electrical resistance of each wire of the spool, measured from socket to socket, must be 3 ohms + 1 ohm.
2. There must be no interruption of electrical contact even when the spool is being rotated at full speed
3. Contact rings of the spool must have double brushes.
4. The wire connected to the earth circuit of the weapon must be connected to the frame of the spool.

2. Cable Length and Safety Features ~~2. — Every approved apparatus must carry, on its base, a metallic plate identifying its specific characteristics: manufacturer, year of manufacture, model, technical information, etc.~~

1. The spools must allow 20 m of cable to be unwound without straining the springs.
2. The socket which terminates the spool cable and receives the plug of the body wire at the fencer's back must include a safety device which fulfills the following requirements:
 - a. It is impossible to use it unless the plug is correctly put in.
 - b. It is impossible for it to become separated during the bout.
 - c. It is possible for the competitor to verify that the two foregoing requirements are satisfied.

3. Connecting Cables and Plug Specifications

1. The resistance of each of the three wires in the connecting cables must not exceed 2.5 ohms.
2. The plugs used to connect the body wire to the spool wire and the connecting cables to the spools and to the apparatus must have:
 - a. Three pins of 4 mm diameter arranged in a straight line.
 - b. Outer pins are spaced 15 mm and 20 mm respectively, from the center pin.
3. The body wire and the connecting cables have plugs; the spool wires and the central electrical apparatus have sockets.

4. Alternative Connection Systems

The use of suspended cables instead of spools is permitted, provided that the conditions already mentioned are satisfied.

Proposal 91

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.49

Motivation: The current Article m.49 (old m.49) states that the approval of an apparatus by the SEMI Commission as well as its acceptance implies no guarantee against possible faults of construction, or against its use with a source of electrical current other than accumulators. The restructured Article m.49 "Installation Requirements" replaces the approval disclaimer with a dedicated installation requirements article. The disclaimer provision from old m.49 is now covered under m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus). The restructured m.49 draws its content from the old M Book's installation and spool placement provisions and consolidates cable length, spool placement, connecting cable construction, and grounding requirements into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the approval disclaimer with a dedicated installation requirements article
2. Moves the approval disclaimer provision to m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus)
3. Consolidates installation and spool placement requirements into a single article
4. Adds explicit cable length, spool placement, connecting cable construction, and grounding sub-sections

m.49. Installation Requirements ~~The approval of an apparatus by the SEMI Committee as well as its acceptance implies no guarantee against possible faults of construction, or against its use with a source of electrical current other than accumulators (cf. m.58).~~

1. Cable Length

The organizers must ensure that the spools have cables of at least 20 m in length so that they do not get ripped out in the event of a flèche made at the end of the piste.

2. Spool Placement

The spools must be placed close to the pistes, but outside them so that fencers do not trip over them.

3. Connecting Cable Construction

1. The cables connecting the spools to the apparatus should be of the three-core type.
2. They must be covered with rubber to protect them from humidity and blows.

4. Grounding the Pistes

Conductive pistes should be earthed at the center of the piste.

Proposal 92

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.50

Motivation: The current Article m.50 (old m.50) states that all expenses incurred by the SEMI Commission for the examination of apparatus are the responsibility of the persons submitting the apparatus. The restructured Article m.50 “Conductive Pistes” replaces the expenses article with a comprehensive conductive pistes article. The expenses provision from old m.50 is now covered under m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus). The restructured m.50 draws its content from the old M Book’s conductive pistes chapter and consolidates material and resistance, coverage, platform mounting, length and extensions, base construction, piste lines, and safety/testing requirements into seven dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the expenses article with a comprehensive conductive pistes article
2. Moves the expenses provision to m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus)
3. Consolidates conductive piste specifications from the old M Book’s Chapter 3 into a single article
4. Adds explicit material, coverage, platform, length, base construction, lines, and safety sub-sections

Part 3: Infrastructure Components

m.50. Conductive Pistes ~~1. — All expenses incurred by the SEMI Committee for the examination of apparatus are the responsibility of the persons submitting the apparatus.~~

1. Material and Resistance

1. The conductive piste must be made from metal, metallic mesh, or a substance that is conductive.
2. The piste must maintain conductivity once positioned and ready for fencing.

3. The resistance of the piste, from one end to the other, must not exceed 5 ohms.

2. Coverage Requirements

The conductive piste must cover the whole of the length and breadth of the piste including its extensions.

3. Platform-Mounted Pistes

1. When the piste is mounted on a platform, the conductive piste must cover the whole width of the platform.
2. The platform must not exceed 50 cm in height.
3. The platform must be wider than the fencing piste itself by at least 25 cm on each side.
4. Each end of the podium must be equipped with a gentle slope right down to ground level.

4. Length and Extensions

1. Because the amount of wire which spools can carry is limited, the conductive piste is designed for use on a piste 14 m long.
2. An extension of 1.5–2.0 m is added at each end of the piste to allow the fencer crossing the rear limits to retire on an even and unvarying surface.
3. The conductive piste must have a length of 17–18 m.

5. Platform Base Construction

1. The wooden bases are 12–15 cm above ground level.
2. The sides must not be sloping.
3. 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.
4. Pistes made of metallic mesh must never be placed directly on a floor of reinforced concrete or tiles.

6. Piste Lines and Indicators

The paint used to draw lines on the conductive piste must not prevent its electrical conductivity.

7. Safety, Maintenance and Testing Requirements

1. There must be no roller or any sort of obstacle at the ends of the conductive pistes which could prevent fencers from retreating normally.
2. Pistes used in World Championships and Olympic Games must be tested before competition by the organizers to ensure the adherence to electrical specifications described in this Book and in the Materials Homologation Handbook.

Proposal 93

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.51

Motivation: The current Article m.51 (old m.51) covers the requirements for all electrical equipment, including hit registration on pistes, apparatus interruption, light signals, foil signal notes, lamp persistence, audible signals, resetting switches, power supply/UPS, clock timing, finals clock equipment with opto-couplers, cable disconnect sound specifications, and UPS backup time. The restructured Article m.51 “Power Supply and Backup” replaces the comprehensive electrical equipment requirements article with a focused power supply and backup article. The hit registration, light signals, audible signals, clock timing, and other apparatus requirements from old m.51 are now covered under m.42 (Core Functional Requirements), m.43–m.45 (weapon-specific apparatus articles), and m.52 (Extension Lamps). The restructured m.51 consolidates the power supply specifications into three dedicated provisions.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the comprehensive electrical equipment requirements with a focused power supply article
2. Moves hit registration, light signals, audible signals, and clock provisions to m.42–m.45 and m.52
3. Consolidates power supply voltage, supply separation, and UPS backup requirements
4. Simplifies from eleven clauses to three focused provisions

Requirements for all electrical equipment (cf. Annexe B)**m.51. Power Supply and Backup**

1. If the sources of current for each side of the apparatus are separate, it may be 2×12 volts or 2×6 volts. ~~1. A hit made on the conductive piste or on the metallic parts of the weapon must not be registered by the apparatus, nor may it prevent the registering of a hit made simultaneously by the opponent. At foil a hit made on a part of the foil may register if an uninsulated part of the weapon of the fencer is in contact with his conductive jacket.~~
2. The separation of the supply for each side of the apparatus is recommended. ~~2. The apparatus must not have any device whereby anyone other than the person detailed to supervise it can interrupt its working during a bout.~~

3. For official FIE competitions, the apparatus must be powered through external batteries or UPS (Uninterruptible Power Supply) with a minimum backup time of 5 minutes at full load.
- ~~3. Hits are registered by light signals. The signal lamps must be placed on the top of the apparatus, in order that they may be visible to the Referee, the competitors and the superintendent of the apparatus. They must be so positioned that they show clearly from which side the hit was made. It must be possible to attach extension lamps to the exterior of the apparatus, in order to increase the visibility of the signals. At foil, when using the apparatus it should be noted that: a. If a non-valid hit has been scored the apparatus will not register a possible valid hit scored on the same side of the apparatus. b. The apparatus does not indicate whether there is any priority in time between two or more hits which it registers simultaneously.~~
- ~~4. Once the signal lamps are alight, they must so remain until the apparatus is reset, without having any tendency to go out or flicker either when subsequent hits are made or if the apparatus is subjected to vibrations.~~
- ~~5. The visual signals must be accompanied by audible signals (cf. Annexe B).~~
- ~~6. The resetting switches must be placed either on top of or on the front part of the apparatus.~~
- ~~7. a) For official competitions of the FIE (cf. t.1) the source of power must always be secured through external batteries or UPS (Uninterruptible power supply) in order not to interrupt the load during the match if any interruption occurs in the normal electricity supply. The wiring of the apparatus to be powered in this way must be designed so that it is impossible for the apparatus to become connected by mistake directly to the mains supply. b) All fencing salles, clubs, etc., and the organisers of training sessions or competitions involving weapons using electrical equipment, may use the current supplied by the mains on condition that they adhere strictly to the technical standards laid down on the subject by their countries and international communities.~~
- ~~8. During the last 10 seconds of each period in an individual bout and of each bout in a team match, the clock must show: the time to a tenth of second when the scoring apparatus is running and to a hundredth of second when the scoring apparatus is stopped. The timer should be provided with a remote start/stop device (see Annex B for technical specifications).~~
- ~~9. For the finals of official competitions of the FIE, the clock must be equipped with a system which connects it to some external extension clocks displaying large luminous numbers, and with another system for the connection of the audible signal. These two connection systems must be separated from the circuits situated inside the central judging apparatus by means of opto-couplers (cf. t.32, m.44).~~
- ~~10. When the cable connecting the audible signal apparatus to the clock is disconnected, the audible signal apparatus must emit a sound of between 80 and 100 decibels (measured at the centre line of the piste) lasting between 2 and 3 seconds, but the central judging apparatus must not be blocked and the clock must not be stopped (cf. t.32, m.44, m.51/9).~~
- ~~11. 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.~~

Proposal 94

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.52

Motivation: The current Article m.52 (old m.52) covers the number and quality of judging apparatuses, specifying the minimum number of apparatuses for official FIE competitions, the process for contacting the SEMI Commission president, and the requirement to choose an approved manufacturer. The restructured Article m.52 “Extension Lamps” replaces the number and quality of apparatuses article with a comprehensive extension lamps article. The number and quality provisions from old m.52 are now covered under m.46 (Apparatus Selection for FIE Competitions). The restructured m.52 draws its content from the old M Book’s Chapter 5 (Extension Lamps) and consolidates usage requirements, lamp height and placement, colored and white lamp specifications, lamp arrangement, and electrical connection protection into six dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the number and quality of apparatuses article with a comprehensive extension lamps article
2. Moves number and quality provisions to m.46 (Apparatus Selection for FIE Competitions)
3. Consolidates extension lamp specifications from the old M Book’s Chapter 5 into a single article
4. Adds explicit usage, height/placement, colored lamps, white lamps, arrangement, and electrical protection sub-sections

Number and quality of judging apparatuses

m.52. Extension Lamps

1. Usage Requirements ~~1.—For official FIE competitions, the organising committee must provide a minimum number of electrical judging apparatuses equal to the number of pistes plus at least two spares. All the apparatuses must be in perfect working order, and of a type approved for the World Championships.~~

1. Extension lamps outside the apparatus are obligatory for official competitions of the FIE.
2. Extension lamps must repeat scoring signals generated by the central apparatus (m.43–m.45).

2. Lamp Height and Placement ~~2.—As soon as a member federation is selected to organise an official FIE competition, it would do well to contact the President of the SEMI Committee~~

~~immediately in order to obtain the names of manufacturers whose electrical apparatus is accepted by the Committee.~~

1. The lamps should be placed at a minimum of 1.80 m above the piste.
2. When fencers fence on a 0.5 m high podium, the extension lamps must be 2.30 m above ground.

3. Colored Lamp Specifications ~~3.—The Organising Committee usually prefers combined apparatus, which can be used for all three weapons. The Organising Committee must choose a manufacturer who will provide good quality equipment for the smooth technical running of competitions; this equipment must be approved by the SEMI Committee.~~

1. The extension lamps signaling valid hits are colored: one red, the other green.
2. They must be at a minimum of 2600 lumens.

4. White Lamp Specifications

1. The white lights indicating non-valid hits must each provide a luminous flux of at least 1100 lumens.
2. The two lamps of the same group must not be further apart than 15 cm.

5. Lamp Arrangement

1. The white and colored extension lamps must be arranged on either side of the apparatus, either horizontally or vertically.
2. They must be visible from all directions.

6. Electrical Connection Protection

1. The exterior lamps of high intensity may be connected to the main electrical supply.
2. If exterior lamps are connected to the main electrical supply, the signals of the recording apparatus must be separated from the circuits of these lamps by phototransistors or by opto-couplers.

Proposal 95

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.53

Motivation: The current Article m.53 (old m.53) covers the checking of apparatuses, including the prototype procedure with the SEMI Commission, the checking report timeline, the two possible outcomes (acceptance or resubmission), and the final checking and test report process before shipment. The restructured Article m.53 “External Display Systems” replaces the checking of apparatuses article with a comprehensive external display systems article. The checking of apparatuses provisions from old m.53 are now covered under m.47 (Apparatus Checking

Procedures). The restructured m.53 draws its content from the old M Book's display board and scoreboard provisions and consolidates display requirements for finals, last-64 onwards, and zonal/World Cup competitions into three dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the checking of apparatuses article with a comprehensive external display systems article
2. Moves checking of apparatuses provisions to m.47 (Apparatus Checking Procedures)
3. Consolidates display board and scoreboard requirements from the old M Book into a single article
4. Adds explicit display requirements for finals, last-64 onwards, and zonal championships/World Cups

Checking of apparatuses

m.53. External Display Systems

1. Display Board Requirements for Championship and Grand Prix Finals ~~1.——Having chosen the manufacturer with which it wants to deal, the Organising Committee of a World Championship immediately advises the President of the SEMI Committee of the FIE who in turn contacts this firm to obtain, as soon as possible, a prototype of the desired model. The control of the fencing apparatuses must be done before the competition using a checking device that is able to verify that the fencing apparatuses fulfil all requirements related to reaction times and electrical resistances.~~

For World Championship and Grand Prix finals and Masters, it is obligatory to make use of a display board providing instantaneous information on:

1. Fencers' names
2. Score
3. Time
4. Other matters necessary for good understanding of the bout

2. Display Requirements — From Last 64 Onwards ~~2.——The report on the checking of the apparatus is always presented to the manufacturer by the President of the Committee within one month of the apparatus being received.~~

1. Starting from the last 64 at World Championships and Grand Prix, it is mandatory to use a central apparatus with:
 - a. A large display or couple scoreboard.
 - b. Instant information on fencers' names, country, score, time.
 - c. The period of a bout or relay of a match.
 - d. Any penalty cards.

2. Display information must reproduce match time and scores generated under m.42, and m.43–m.45.

3. Display Requirements — Zonal Championships and World Cups ~~3. There are then two possibilities: a. The proposed apparatus is accepted by the Committee, in which case the other apparatuses can be manufactured like the prototype. b. The apparatus does not conform to the requirements, in which case it must be modified and re-submitted to the Committee for a new examination.~~

This central apparatus is optional at Zonal Championships and World Cups.

~~4. When all the apparatuses are ready and before they are sent out, the President of the SEMI Committee must be notified, so that he can document the checking of the apparatuses before they leave the factory. Each apparatus comes with a test report giving the different specifications concerning the registering time in milliseconds and the resistance in ohms of the external circuits before registering a non-valid hit. The person in charge of verification ticks off every apparatus and makes a note of its number.~~

Proposal 96

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.54

Motivation: The current Article m.54 (old m.54) states that before every World Championship or Olympic Games, a delegate of the Organising Committee must check the proper working of the apparatuses and that they conform to the type registered, and that the apparatuses must be made available at least 48 hours before competition. The restructured Article m.54 “Competence and Authority” replaces the pre-competition checking article with a comprehensive weapons control competence and authority article. The pre-competition checking provisions from old m.54 are now covered under m.47 (Apparatus Checking Procedures). The restructured m.54 is the first article of Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control) and establishes responsibility, personnel appointment, authority, and competence requirements in four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the pre-competition checking article with a comprehensive competence and authority article
 2. Moves pre-competition checking provisions to m.47 (Apparatus Checking Procedures)
 3. Establishes Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control) with clear authority and responsibility framework
 4. Adds explicit personnel appointment, authority scope, and competence requirement sub-sections
-

Chapter 5: Weapons and Equipment Control

Part 1: Competence and Scope

m.54. Competence and Authority

1. Responsibility for Weapons and Material Control ~~1. — Before every World Championship or Olympic Games, a delegate of the Organising Committee must check the proper working of the apparatuses to be used and that they conform to the type registered. This is independent of the registration of the type of apparatus mentioned above (cf. m.52).~~

1. Verification of compliance with the material requirements of this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook is the responsibility of the SEMI Commission **or, if the SEMI Commission is not present, then the responsibility is with** the Directoire Technique / Supervisor.
2. Only members of the SEMI Commission or the Directoire Technique / **Supervisor** may **require verification of detailed conformity to manufacturing specifications not readily verifiable by standard checking procedures.**

2. Appointment and Authority of SEMI Delegate ~~2. — The apparatuses must be made available to this delegate at least 48 hours before the beginning of the competition.~~

1. **Authority of the SEMI delegate is established in the FIE Statues (see Functions of the Commissions 6.5)**
2. Executive Committee of the FIE will appoint three member(s) of the SEMI Commission to be responsible for supervision of electrical equipment and weapons control of the World Championships and for the Olympic Games, including but not limited to:
 - a. Checking of the fencers' weapon.
 - b. Checking of the fencers' clothing and equipment.
 - c. Electrical equipment provided by the organizers.
 - d. Approving location of weapons control areas**
 - e. Checking conformity of Field of Play**
3. Other official FIE competitions **including but not limited to World Cups, Grand Prix, the FIE will appoint one or more SEMI Commission members to be responsible for supervision of electrical equipment and weapons control, including but not limited to items listed in m.54.2.2**

3. Authority of Weapons Control Personnel

1. Weapons Control personnel have the authority to:
 - a. Examine any weapon or equipment presented for competition use.
 - b. Test weapons and equipment using approved checking apparatus.
 - c. Approve conforming material by affixing checking marks.
 - d. Reject non-conforming material.
 - e. Refer irregular or suspicious material to the SEMI representative or Directoire Technique / **Supervisor** (see m.59–m.60 and m.58).

2. The decisions of Weapons Control personnel regarding material compliance are binding and can be appealed only to the SEMI representative present at the competition. If the SEMI representative is not present, then the Directoire Technique / Supervisor can be appealed to.

4. Competence Requirements

1. Weapons Control personnel must be trained in:
 - a. The material requirements of this Book.
 - b. The proper use of checking apparatus and gauges.
 - c. The identification of non-conforming or irregular material.
 - d. The procedures for marking and rejecting equipment.
2. Training standards and certification procedures are defined by this Book, the Homologation Handbook, and the FIE.

Proposal 97

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.55

Motivation: The current Article m.55 (old m.55) covers the spools, cables and their connections, specifying spool wire resistance (3 ohms), electrical contact continuity with double brushes, 20m cable unwinding, safety device requirements for spool sockets, connecting cable resistance (2.5 ohms), plug specifications (3 pins, 4mm diameter), and the permissibility of suspended cables. The restructured Article m.55 "Scope of Equipment Checking" replaces the spools and cables article with a comprehensive equipment checking scope article. The spools and cables provisions from old m.55 are now covered under m.48 (Spools and Cables). The restructured m.55 is part of Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control) and establishes which equipment is subject to checking, when checking must take place, and fencer obligations in three dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the spools and cables article with a comprehensive equipment checking scope article
2. Moves spools and cables provisions to m.48 (Spools and Cables)
3. Establishes clear scope for equipment checking within Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control)
4. Adds explicit equipment subject to checking, timing, and fencer obligation sub-sections

CHAPTER 2. SPOOLS, CABLES AND THEIR CONNECTIONS

m.55. Scope of Equipment Checking

1. Equipment Subject to Checking ~~1. — The maximum electrical resistance of each wire of the spool, measured from socket to socket, must be 3 ohms.~~

1. All weapons and equipment used in competition must be checked for compliance with this Book.
2. Equipment subject to checking includes **but not limited to**:
 - a. Weapons and their corresponding parts**
 - b. Body wires;
 - c. Conductive jackets;
 - d. Masks;
 - e. Protective clothing **and equipment (e.g. chest plates, etc.)**;
 - f. Gloves;
 - g. Field of Play equipment;
 - h. Other equipment (e.g. weights, shims, gabarit, etc.)**
 - i. Any other equipment specified by the Directoire Technique (see Chapters 2 and 3).**

2. Timing of Equipment Checking Times ~~2. There must be no interruption of electrical contact even when the spool is being rotated at full speed. To ensure this the contact rings must have double brushes. The wire connected to the earth circuit of the weapon will be connected to the frame of the spool.~~

Equipment checking must take place:

- a. Prior to the start of competition.
- b. During the competition when the fencers are required to present themselves officially **in the call room in the time period as posted** on the colored pistes.
- c. At any time during competition at the request of a referee, the Directoire Technique, or a SEMI representative.
- d. Following any repair or modification of equipment during competition (see m.56–m.60).

3. Fencer's Obligation to Present Equipment ~~3. — The spools must allow 20 m of cable to be unwound without straining the springs.~~

1. Each fencer is responsible for ensuring that all equipment they intend to use in competition is presented for checking in accordance with the procedures established by this Book.
2. Failure to present equipment for checking, or use of unchecked equipment, is subject to penalties as specified in the competition rules and in cases of irregular equipment under m.58.
- ~~4. — The socket which terminates the spool cable, and is designed to receive the plug of the bodywire at the fencer's back, must include a safety device which fulfils the following requirements: that it is impossible to use it unless the plug is correctly put in; that it is~~

~~impossible for it to become separated during the bout; that it is possible for the competitor to verify that the two foregoing requirements are satisfied.~~

~~5. — The resistance of each of the three wires in the connecting cables must not exceed 2.5 ohms.~~

~~6. The plugs used to connect the bodywire to the spool wire and the connecting cables to the spools and to the apparatus must have three pins of 4 mm diameter arranged in a straight line. The outer pins must be spaced 15 and 20 mm respectively from the centre pin. The bodywire and the connecting cables have plugs, the spool wires and the central electrical apparatus have sockets to them.~~

~~7. The use of suspended cables instead of spools is permitted, provided that the conditions already mentioned are satisfied.~~

Proposal 98

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.56

Motivation: The current Article m.56 (old m.56) covers installation requirements for spools and cables, specifying that organisers must ensure spools have 20m cables, spools must be placed close but outside pistes, cables should be three-core rubber-covered, and conductive pistes should be earthed at the centre. The restructured Article m.56 “Presentation of Equipment to Weapons Control” replaces the installation requirements article with a comprehensive equipment presentation article. The installation provisions from old m.56 are now covered under m.49 (Installation Requirements). The restructured m.56 is part of Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control) and establishes submission requirements for equipment presentation in one dedicated sub-section.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the installation requirements article with a comprehensive equipment presentation article
2. Moves installation provisions to m.49 (Installation Requirements)
3. Establishes clear submission requirements for equipment presentation within Chapter 5
4. Adds explicit requirements for equipment assembly, functionality, delegation contacts, and timing

Part 2: Presentation and Checking Process

m.56. Presentation of Equipment to Weapons Control

1. Submission Requirements ~~1. — The organisers must ensure that the spools have cables of at least 20 m in length so that they do not get ripped out in the event of a flèche made at the end of the piste.~~

1. Fencers must present their equipment to the Weapons Control area during the timetable of each official competition.
 2. Equipment must be presented in a manner that facilitates efficient checking (see m.55 for scope):
 - a. Weapons must be fully assembled and ready for testing.
 - b. Electrical components must be functional.
 - c. Equipment must be clean and in condition for inspection.
 3. Each head of delegation must indicate where they can be contacted should a serious fault be detected while the equipment belonging to their fencer is being checked.
 4. Presentation to weapons control is allowed on the morning of the day before the competition. Presentation to weapons control after 17:00 on the day before each event may result in a refusal.
- ~~2. — The spools must be placed close to the pistes, but outside them so that fencers do not trip over them.~~
- ~~3. The cables connecting the spools to the apparatus should be of the three-core type and be covered with rubber to protect them from humidity and blows.~~
- ~~4. Conductive pistes should be earthed at the centre of the piste.~~

Proposal 99

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.56

Motivation: The current Article m.56 (old m.56) covers installation requirements for spools and cables, specifying that organisers must ensure spools have 20m cables, spools must be placed close but outside pistes, cables should be three-core rubber-covered, and conductive pistes should be earthed at the centre. The restructured Article m.56 “Presentation of Equipment to Weapons Control” replaces the installation requirements article with a comprehensive equipment presentation article. The installation provisions from old m.56 are now covered under m.49 (Installation Requirements). The restructured m.56 is part of Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control) and establishes submission requirements, submission limits, identification and labeling, collection procedures, and checking process workflow in five dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the installation requirements article with a comprehensive equipment presentation article
2. Moves installation provisions to m.49 (Installation Requirements)
3. Establishes clear submission, limits, identification, collection, and workflow requirements within Chapter 5

4. Adds explicit requirements for equipment assembly, quantity limits, labeling, collection timing, and checking workflow
-

m.56. Presentation of Equipment to Weapons Control

1. Submission Requirements ~~1. — The organisers must ensure that the spools have cables of at least 20 m in length so that they do not get ripped out in the event of a flèche made at the end of the piste.~~

1. Fencers must present their equipment to the Weapons Control area during the timetable of each official competition.
2. Equipment must be presented in a manner that facilitates efficient checking (see m.55 for scope):
 - a. Weapons must be fully assembled and ready for testing.
 - b. Electrical components must be functional.
 - c. Equipment must be clean and in condition for inspection.
3. Each head of delegation must indicate where they can be contacted should a serious fault be detected while the equipment belonging to their fencer is being checked.
4. Presentation to weapons control is allowed on the morning of the day before the competition. Presentation to weapons control after 17:00 on the day before each event may result in a refusal.

2. Submission Limits and Provisions ~~2. — The spools must be placed close to the pistes, but outside them so that fencers do not trip over them.~~

1. Quantity limits are established to ensure efficient processing of equipment and equitable access to checking services.
2. Maximum number of items that may be presented for checking, include:
 - a. Maximum number of four (4) weapons per fencer;
 - b. Maximum number of three (3) body wires per fencer;
 - c. Maximum number of two (2) conductive jackets per fencer;
 - d. Maximum number of two (2) masks per fencer;
 - e. Maximum number of three (3) mask-to-jacket leads per fencer.
3. For foil weapons only, weapons must be submitted with bare points not covered with adhesive tape over the first 15cm.

3. Identification and Labeling ~~3. — The cables connecting the spools to the apparatus should be of the three core type and be covered with rubber to protect them from humidity and blows.~~

1. Fencers must provide identification for all equipment submitted for checking.
2. The Weapons Control area may require:

- a. Equipment to be placed in labeled bags or containers.
- b. Contact information for the fencer or their delegation.
- c. Indication of the fencer's weapon and competition events.
3. The Weapons Control area is responsible for maintaining organization and security of equipment during the checking process.

4. Collection of Checked Equipment ~~4. — Conductive pistes should be earthed at the centre of the piste.~~

1. Fencers or their designated representatives must collect checked equipment in accordance with the timetable of each official competition of the FIE.
2. The Weapons Control area may establish specific times for collection to facilitate efficient operations.
3. Optimally, submitted equipment should be available for collection at the end of the same day of submission.
4. The fencer 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.

5. Checking Process Workflow

1. Equipment is checked in the order in which it arrives or by an order as directed by the SEMI delegate.
2. Equipment checking typically follows this workflow:
 - a. Submission: Fencer presents equipment at the Checking Area.
 - b. Inspection: Weapons Control personnel examine and test equipment.
 - c. Decision: Equipment is approved (marked) or rejected.
 - d. Return — Approved: Approved equipment is processed in accordance with m.59 and equipment is returned to the fencer.
 - e. Return — Non-conforming: Non-conforming is handled in accordance under m.60.

Proposal 100

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.57

Motivation: The current Article m.57 (old m.57) covers conductive pistes, specifying material and resistance requirements, coverage, platform mounting, piste length and extensions, base construction, piste lines, repair equipment, safety obstacles, and pre-competition testing. The restructured Article m.57 "Weapon Length Measurement" replaces the conductive pistes article with a dedicated weapon length measurement article. The conductive piste provisions from old m.57 are now covered under m.50 (Conductive Pistes). The restructured m.57 consolidates all weapon length measurement procedures — total weapon length, blade length, applicable maximums, measuring

devices, reading tolerances, ambiguous readings, and non-conforming consequences — into seven focused provisions.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the conductive pistes article with a dedicated weapon length measurement article
2. Moves conductive piste provisions to m.50 (Conductive Pistes)
3. Consolidates measurement procedures that were previously scattered across weapon-specific articles
4. Adds explicit measurement device requirements, reading tolerances, and ambiguity procedures

CHAPTER 3. CONDUCTIVE PISTES

m.57. Weapon Length Measurement

1. Total weapon length must be measured between Plane A and Plane E in accordance with m.4. ~~1. — The conductive piste must be made from metal, metallic mesh or some substance that is conductive. The resistance of the piste, from one end to the other, must not exceed 5 ohms.~~
2. Blade length and any other dimensional distances must be measured between the relevant planes as defined in m.4. ~~2. — The conductive piste must cover the whole of the length and breadth of the piste including its extensions, in order to neutralise floor hits.~~
3. The applicable maximum lengths for each weapon are defined in the weapon-specific articles of this Book, including but not limited to m.6 (foil), m.14–m.15 (épée), and m.23 (sabre). ~~3. a) When the piste is mounted on a platform the conductive piste must cover the whole width of the platform. b) The platform must not exceed 50 cm in height, and must be wider than the fencing piste itself by at least 25 cm on each side. Each end of the podium must be equipped with a gentle slope right down to ground level.~~
4. Weapons Control must use a rigid measuring device and must align the weapon along the axis of the blade for measurement. ~~4. — Because the amount of wire which the spools can carry is limited, the conductive piste is designed for use on a piste 14 m long; an extension of 1.50–2 m is added at each end of the piste to allow the fencer crossing the rear limits of the piste to retire on an even and unvarying surface. The conductive piste must therefore have a length of 17–18 m.~~
5. Measurements are read to the nearest millimeter. Because of normal reading and alignment uncertainty with such devices, small apparent overruns up to 2 mm may occur

without providing any significant advantage or affecting safety. ~~5. — a) The wooden bases are 12–15 cm above ground level. Their sides must not be sloping. b) 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. c) Pistes made of metallic mesh must never be placed directly on a floor of reinforced concrete or tiles.~~

6. In cases where the reading is ambiguous because of parallax, alignment, or blade curvature during measurement, Weapons Control must repeat the measurement. ~~6. The paint used to draw the lines on the conductive piste must not prevent its electrical conductivity, so that a hit made on it at a point where a line occurs is also neutralised.~~
7. Interpretation and consequences of non-conforming length measurements are in m.59–m.60. ~~7. — The organisers must have equipment for the immediate repair of the piste available on the spot.~~
- ~~8. There must be no roller or any sort of obstacle at the ends of the conductive pistes which could prevent the fencers from retreating normally.~~
- ~~9. Pistes used in the World Championships and in the Olympic Games must be tested before competition by the organisers using the apposite device.~~

Proposal 101

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.58

Motivation: The current Article m.58 (old m.58) covers the source of electrical current, specifying 12 volt supply requirements, warning lights, battery/voltmeter equipment, and UPS backup time. The restructured Article m.58 “Irregular Equipment and Penalties” replaces the source of electrical current article with a comprehensive irregular equipment and penalties article. The power supply provisions from old m.58 are now covered under m.51 (Power Supply and Backup). The restructured m.58 draws its content from various enforcement-related provisions in the old M Book and consolidates detection, examination and evidence, penalties, and reporting into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the source of electrical current article with a comprehensive irregular equipment article
2. Moves power supply provisions to m.51 (Power Supply and Backup)
3. Consolidates irregular equipment procedures that were previously scattered across multiple articles
4. Adds explicit detection, examination, penalties, and reporting sub-sections

CHAPTER 4. SOURCE OF ELECTRICAL CURRENT

m.58. Irregular Equipment and Penalties

1. Detection of Irregular Equipment ~~1. — The apparatus must be based on a 12-volt supply ($\pm 5\%$) or, if the sources of current for each side of the apparatus are separate, on 2 x 12 volts or 2 x 6 volts. (The separation of the supply for each side of the apparatus is recommended because it can simplify a number of problems met in the construction of apparatus for foil.)~~

1. If material or equipment presented to the Weapons Control area appears to have been assembled in such a way that the fencer can control at will the registering of hits or the malfunctioning of the judging apparatus, the equipment must be referred to the SEMI representative or Directoire Technique.
2. Irregular equipment includes, but is not limited to:
 - a. Equipment with concealed switches, contacts, or circuits.
 - b. Equipment with components designed to circumvent the rules.
 - c. Equipment modified to allow manipulation of electrical circuits during fencing.
 - d. Equipment that does not conform to approved designs or specifications.

2. Examination and Evidence ~~2. — The apparatus may include warning lights to indicate that it is switched on. Such lights should be colourless.~~

1. The SEMI representative or Directoire Technique must examine irregular equipment to determine:
 - a. The nature and extent of the irregularity.
 - b. Whether the irregularity constitutes intentional rule violation.
 - c. The identity of the person who submitted the equipment.
2. Irregular equipment may be retained as evidence and may be subject to detailed examination or testing.

3. Penalties for Irregular Equipment ~~.3. — If the apparatus is constructed to operate with dry batteries, it must be equipped with a voltmeter or some other device enabling the power in the batteries to be checked at any moment. However, the apparatus must always be equipped with a socket, to allow it to be powered either by 12-V DC via AC/DC converter or through VRLA batteries.~~

1. After examination of irregular items, the SEMI representative may require a penalty against the person who submitted them.
2. Penalties are imposed in accordance with the disciplinary procedures set out in the competition rules and may trigger homologation review under m.68–m.73.
3. The severity of penalties may depend on:

- a. The nature and extent of the irregularity.
- b. Whether the irregularity appears intentional.
- c. Whether similar irregularities have been detected previously.

4. Reporting and Documentation ~~4. Generally, if the apparatus is powered by batteries or UPS (Uninterruptible power supply), the minimum backup time for the external batteries or UPS is 5 minutes.~~

1. All instances of irregular equipment must be documented and reported to the FIE.
2. Documentation must include:
 - a. Description of the irregularity.
 - b. Photographs or physical evidence where appropriate.
 - c. Identity of the person who submitted the equipment.
 - d. Penalties imposed or recommended.
3. Irregular equipment may also be subjected to homologation review under m.68–m.73 where applicable.

Proposal 102

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.59

Motivation: The current Article m.59 (old m.59) covers extension lamps, specifying that extension lamps outside the apparatus are obligatory for official FIE competitions, lamp placement height, valid hit lamp color and luminosity requirements, non-valid hit lamp specifications, and lamp arrangement. The restructured Article m.59 “Marking of Approved Material” replaces the extension lamps article with a comprehensive marking of approved material article. The extension lamp provisions from old m.59 are now covered under m.52 (Extension Lamps). The restructured m.59 consolidates checking mark requirements, types, application, validity, and referee verification into five dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the extension lamps article with a comprehensive marking of approved material article
2. Moves extension lamp provisions to m.52 (Extension Lamps)
3. Consolidates checking mark provisions that were previously scattered across multiple articles
4. Adds explicit requirements, types, application, validity, and referee verification sub-sections

CHAPTER 5. EXTENSION LAMPS

Part 3: Marking and Post-check Handling

m.59. Marking of Approved Material

1. Requirements for Checking Marks ~~1. a) Extension lamps outside the apparatus are obligatory for the official competitions of the FIE. b) The lamps should be placed at a minimum of 1.80 m above the piste. (When the fencers fence on a 0.50 m high podium, the extension lamps must be 2.30 m above ground.) c) The extension lamps signalling valid hits are coloured, one red, the other green, and they must be of 2600 lumens minimum.~~

1. Equipment that is checked and approved for use in competition must be distinctively marked to indicate that it has passed inspection.
2. Only equipment bearing valid checking marks may be used in competition (see m.55).
3. Use of equipment that does not bear valid checking marks is subject to penalties as specified in the competition rules and may constitute a breach of m.2.

2. Types of Checking Marks ~~2. a) The white lights indicating non-valid hits need be of only 1100 lumens. b) The two lamps of the same group must not be further apart than 15 cm.~~

1. Checking marks may include: a. Adhesive labels affixed to weapons or equipment. b. Special ink or paint applied to weapons (guards, blades, points). c. Stamps affixed to conductive jackets. d. Electronic tags or other identification methods approved by the FIE.
2. Checking marks must be: a. Distinctive and difficult to counterfeit. b. Durable enough to remain intact throughout the competition. c. Visible to referees and control personnel.

3. Application of Checking Marks ~~3. The white and coloured extension lamps must be arranged on either side of the apparatus, either horizontally or vertically, and must be visible from all directions (cf. Annexe B, paragraph A.1.(a).2).~~

1. Checking marks are applied by Weapons Control personnel after equipment has been verified to conform to this Book.
2. The location and method of applying the checking marks is determined by the SEMI representative and must be consistent throughout the competition.

4. Validity of Checking Marks

1. Checking marks are valid only for the competition for which they were issued (see m.56 for presentation and m.60 for re-checking).
2. Checking marks from previous competitions are not valid and must be removed before new checking marks are applied.
3. Equipment that has been repaired, modified, or altered after checking must be re-checked and re-marked before it may be used.

5. Verification by Referees

Referees are responsible for verifying that all equipment used in bouts under their supervision bears valid checking marks.

Proposal 103

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.60

Motivation: The current Article m.60 (old m.60) covers the second part of extension lamps, specifying that exterior lamps of high intensity may be connected to the main electrical supply with phototransistor or opto-coupler separation, and the mandatory use of display boards for World Championship and Grand Prix finals providing information on fencers' names, scores, time, and other details. The restructured Article m.60 "Handling of Rejected or Repaired Equipment" replaces the extension lamps/display board article with a comprehensive rejected and repaired equipment handling article. The display board and exterior lamp provisions from old m.60 are now covered under m.52 (Extension Lamps) and m.53 (Scoreboards and Display Systems). The restructured m.60 consolidates rejection categories, communication of rejection reasons, repair procedures, and re-checking requirements into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the extension lamps/display board article with a comprehensive rejected equipment handling article
 2. Moves display board and exterior lamp provisions to m.52 (Extension Lamps) and m.53 (Scoreboards and Display Systems)
 3. Consolidates equipment rejection and repair procedures that were previously scattered across multiple articles
 4. Adds explicit rejection categories, communication, repair, and re-checking sub-sections
-

m.60. Handling of Rejected or Repaired Equipment

1. Rejection of Non-Conforming Equipment ~~1. The exterior lamps of high intensity may be connected to the main electrical supply, but in this case the signals of the recording apparatus have to be separated from the circuits of these lamps by phototransistors or by opto-couplers.~~

1. Non-conforming equipment identified at Weapons Control falls into two categories: a. Repairable equipment, which does not meet one or more requirements of this Book but can be brought into conformity by repair or adjustment. b. Unsafe equipment, which presents a clear safety risk (for example, masks with damaged mesh or holes in vital areas, broken blades, or torn protective clothing exposing vital areas) must not be returned to service.

2. Repairable equipment may be returned to the fencer for repair in accordance with m.60.3–m.60.7.
3. Unsafe equipment (as defined in m.2, m.27, and m.28) may be confiscated or rendered visibly unusable by Weapons Control or by the Referee in the presence of the person who presented the equipment to the weapon check or the team captain of the fencer concerned, and must not be returned to service in the competition.
4. Rejected equipment that is unsafe must be distinctively marked to indicate that it may not be used in competition (see m.2).
5. Rejection marks for conductive jackets must be paint or ink of a distinctive color.
6. Rejection marks must be marked by a member of the SEMI Commission, if available, or by the weapons checking personnel.

2. Communication of Rejection Reasons ~~2. For World Championship and Grand Prix finals and Masters, it is obligatory to make use of a display board of the type shown in the drawing in Annexe C, providing instantaneous information on the fencers' names, the score, the time and other matters necessary for a good understanding of the bout. Starting from the last 64 at World Championships and Grand Prix, it is mandatory to use a central apparatus with a large display or a couple scoreboard that provides instant information on the fencers' names, country, score, time, the period of a bout or the relay of a match and any penalty cards. This central apparatus is optional at Zonal Championships and World Cups.~~

When equipment is rejected, Weapons Control personnel must inform the fencer or their representative of (see m.2, m.56, and Chapter 2–3):

1. The specific reason(s) for rejection.
2. The requirements that must be met for approval.
3. The procedures for repair and re-checking.

3. Repair of Rejected Equipment

1. Rejected equipment may be repaired during the competition if repair facilities are available.
2. Repairs must bring equipment into full conformity with this Book.

4. Re-Checking of Repaired Equipment

1. Repaired equipment must be re-submitted to the Checking Area for checking if intended for use in the competition (see m.56).
2. Re-checking of repaired equipment will be carried out only after the initial round of checking of all fencers' equipment has been completed.
3. Repaired equipment that passes re-checking must be marked with valid checking marks.

Proposal 104

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.61

Motivation: Article m.61 “Organizers’ Obligations for Checking Resources” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book addressed organizer obligations only briefly and scattered across multiple chapters (old m.42, m.54, m.56). The new article consolidates and significantly expands these requirements into a single comprehensive article covering general obligations, required checking apparatus (gauges, flexibility testing, mask resistance, electrical testing, spring pressure weights, tip travel gauges, checking marks, and additional apparatus for major competitions), conductive jacket checking and stamping, marking materials, facilities and workspace, and gauge approval, calibration and maintenance.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article for organizers’ checking resource obligations
 2. Consolidates scattered provisions from old m.42, m.54, and m.56 into one location
 3. Adds detailed apparatus lists including gauges, testing devices, weights, and marking materials
 4. Introduces explicit facility, workspace, calibration, and maintenance requirements
-

Part 4: Equipment Checking Resources and Infrastructure

m.61. Organizers’ Obligations for Checking Resources

1. General Obligation

1. The Organizing Committee of the competition must provide the equipment, personnel, and facilities necessary to carry out weapons and equipment checking in accordance with this Book.
2. The scope and scale of checking resources must be appropriate to the size and level of the competition (see m.54–m.56).

2. Required Checking Apparatus

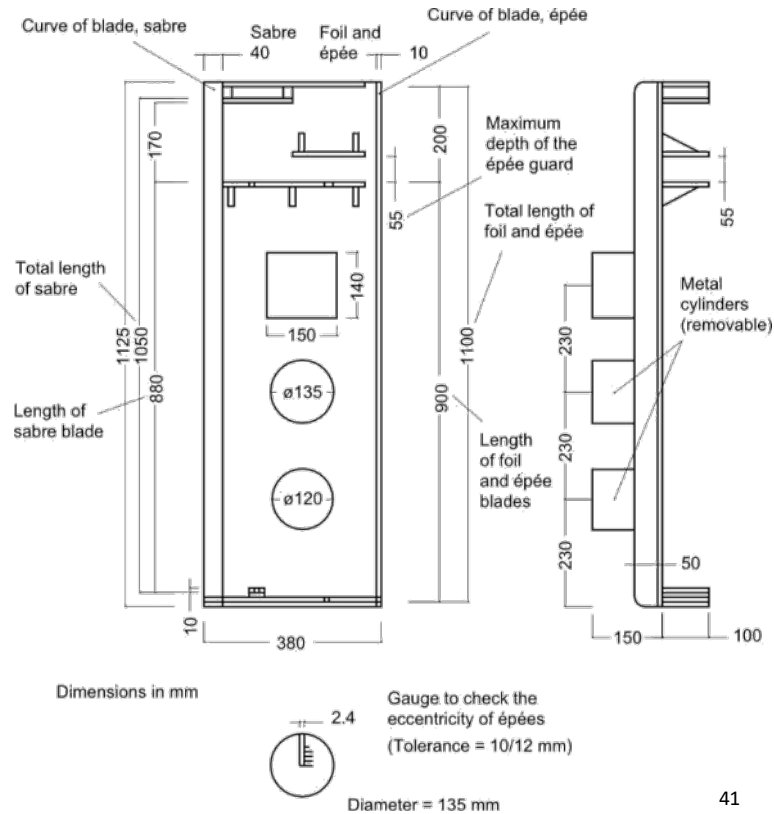
The Organizing Committee must provide the FIE technical delegates responsible for checking with at least the following apparatus:

1. Gauges for Dimensions

Two or more gauges of:

- a. Blade lengths (foil, épée, sabre).

- b. Guard diameters and depths (all weapons).
- c. Handle lengths.
- d. Other dimensional requirements specified in Chapters 1–3.



41

Figure 28: Example of Testing Gauge - Gabarit

2. Flexibility Testing Devices

Devices for measuring the flexibility of blades at foil, épée, and sabre in accordance with the test procedures specified in Chapter 2.

3. Mask Resistance Testing Devices

Devices for testing the resistance of mask mesh to deformation in accordance with the standards specified in Chapter 3.

4. Electrical Testing Apparatus

Electrical checking devices capable of quickly verifying:

- a. Electrical resistance of body wires.
- b. Correct assembly of body wires and weapons.
- c. Resistance of conductive jackets.
- d. Functionality of tip assemblies.

- e. Continuity of electrical circuits.

5. Spring Pressure Testing Weights

- a. Weights of 500 g (± 2 g tolerance) for testing foil tip springs (see m.10).
- b. Weights of 750 g (± 3 g tolerance) for testing épée tip springs (see m.20).
- c. Weights must be provided:
 - i. At all locations that conduct official weapons control.
 - ii. At each piste during competition.

6. Tip Travel Gauges

- a. Devices allowing accurate measurement of (see m.10, m.20 and m.57):
 - i. Travel tolerance (épée).
 - ii. Residual travel (épée).
 - iii. Total travel (foil and épée).
- b. Gauges must be provided both:
 - i. At all locations that conduct official weapons control.
 - ii. At each piste during competition.

7. Checking Marks and Labels

Sufficient quantities of:

- a. Adhesive labels for approved equipment.
- b. Adhesive labels for rejected equipment.
- c. Special ink or paint for marking weapons.
- d. Stamps for marking conductive jackets.
- e. Any other marking materials specified by the Directoire Technique and/or the SEMI.

8. Additional Apparatus for Major Competitions

At World Championships and Olympic Games:

- a. Additional testing equipment may be required by the FIE.
- b. Additional testing equipment must be reviewed and approved by a group that consists of at least the SEMI President or their designee and the FIE Executive Committee Representative of the SEMI or their designee and one additional SEMI Commission member.

3. Conductive Jacket Checking and Stamping

1. The Organizing Committee must provide a special stamp to be affixed to each conductive jacket after its electrical resistance has been verified.
2. The checking stamp on a conductive jacket indicates that resistance has been tested (see m.30 and m.59) but does not constitute final approval for use.

3. The referee makes the final decision on whether a conductive jacket may be used.
4. The referee must verify before each bout that:
 - a. The conductive jacket bears a valid checking stamp, AND
 - b. The conductive jacket entirely covers the valid target area;
 - c. The jacket is in good condition with no holes or defects.

4. Marking Materials for Weapons

Special ink or paint must be provided to mark the guards, blades, and points of weapons that have been checked and approved.

5. Facilities, Equipment, and Workspace

1. The Organizing Committee must provide adequate facilities for weapons checking, including (see m.56 and m.62):
 - a. Sufficient workspace for checking teams to operate efficiently.
 - b. Adequate lighting for inspection of equipment.
 - c. Secure storage for equipment awaiting checking or collection.
 - d. Separate areas for checking stations and repair workshops (if provided).
 - e. Access to electrical power for testing apparatus.
2. The organizers must make available equipment for immediate repair of the piste.

6. Approval, Calibration and Maintenance of Gauges

1. All checking apparatus must be calibrated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications and FIE standards.
2. The Directoire Technique and/or the SEMI, if applicable, may verify calibration of checking apparatus before or during the competition.
3. The checking gauge as specified in Figure 28 (the Gabarit) requires shop-drawings (e.g. CAD drawings, etc.) showing measurements and tolerances to be submitted and approved by the SEMI Commission prior to manufacture.

Proposal 105

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.62

Motivation: Article m.62 "Weapons Control Staffing and Organization" is an entirely new provision. The old M Book contained only a brief mention of workshop teams (old m.42) without detailed staffing composition, station requirements, workflow procedures, or coordination protocols. The new article provides a comprehensive framework for weapons control operations covering staffing composition and assigned roles, number of checking stations, workflow through weapons control

(dimensional checking, electrical testing, marking and return), coordination and supervision, and communication with fencers.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article for weapons control staffing and organizational structure
2. Defines specific team roles (dimensional, electrical, marking, operations management)
3. Establishes station requirements based on competition size
4. Introduces detailed workflow, supervision, and fencer communication procedures

m.62. Weapons Control Staffing and Organization

1. Weapons Control Staffing Composition

1. To carry out checking properly and efficiently, the Weapons Check can be organized into teams.
2. Each team should consist of a minimum of four leads with assigned roles: a. First person: Checks weapons for dimensional conformity by passing them through gauges and conducting visual inspection. b. Second person: Conducts all electrical tests (body wires, weapons, conductive jackets). c. Third person: Affixes checking marks to approved equipment and returns equipment to fencers' bags or storage. d. Fourth person: Manages the operations and flow of the checking operations.

2. Number of Stations

1. The number of checking stations must be appropriate to the size of the competition.
2. For major competitions, a minimum of three stations should be provided to ensure efficient processing of equipment.
3. The number of checking stations required is based on: a. Number of fencers; b. Amount of equipment to be checked; c. Time available for checking; d. Competition schedule.

3. Workflow Through Weapons Control

1. Equipment should flow through each station:
2. Dimensional Checking (as required by m.4, m.6, m.14, m.23, and m.57): a. Visual inspection of weapons. b. Gauge testing for length, diameter, depth (see m.4, m.6, m.14, m.23 and m.57). c. Flexibility testing of blades. d. Identification of obvious defects.
3. Electrical Testing (as required by m.9, m.10, m.20, m.26 and Chapter 4): a. Body wire resistance and continuity testing. b. Weapon electrical circuit testing. c. Conductive jacket resistance testing. d. Tip assembly pressure and travel testing.
4. Marking and Return: a. Application of checking marks to approved equipment (see m.59). b. Application of rejection marks to non-conforming equipment (see m.60). c. Recording of checked equipment. d. Return of equipment to storage or fencer. e. Equipment that

fails at any station must be removed from the workflow and handled in accordance with m.60.

4. Coordination and Supervision

1. The SEMI representative supervises the operation of checking stations:
2. Supervision includes: a. Ensuring consistent application of checking standards; b. Resolving questions or disputes regarding conformity; c. Managing workflow and queue priorities; d. Addressing irregular equipment in accordance with m.60.

5. Communication with Fencers

The Weapons Control should establish clear procedures for:

- a. Informing fencers of checking schedules;
- b. Notifying fencers when equipment is ready for collection;
- c. Explaining rejection reasons;
- d. Providing information about repair and re-checking procedures.

Proposal 106

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.63

Motivation: Article m.63 “Electrical Judging Equipment Provided by Organizers” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book listed organizer-provided electrical equipment within the general checking article (old m.42) without a dedicated scope or conflict-resolution clause. The new article creates a clear overview of the electrical judging system components that organizers must provide, references Chapter 4 for detailed specifications, and establishes a conflict-resolution rule where Chapter 4 prevails.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated overview article for organizer-provided electrical judging equipment
2. Lists the full scope of required equipment (central apparatus, spools, pistes, power, clock systems)
3. Establishes Chapter 4 as the prevailing authority for detailed specifications
4. Adds explicit provision for wireless apparatus at Veterans World Championships

Part 5: Overview of Organizer’s Electrical Equipment

m.63. Electrical Judging Equipment Provided by Organizers

1. Scope of Organizer-Provided Equipment

1. The electrical judging system for competition includes equipment provided by the Organizing Committee which consists of, but not limited to: a. The central judging apparatus with extension lamps. b. Spools with cables and connections, or cables suspended overhead. c. The conductive piste(s). d. The source of electrical current. e. For finals of official FIE competitions: a clock linked to the apparatus controlling the audible signal and electrical registering of hits (see Chapter 4).
2. Detailed specifications for equipment (central judging apparatus — wired and wireless, spools, cables, connectors, piste(s), power source, clock and timing systems, and prohibited equipment) are set out in Chapter 4.
3. Where conflicts arise between this article and Chapter 4, the provisions of Chapter 4 prevail.
4. Wireless apparatus is optional at the Veterans World Championships.

Proposal 107

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.64

Motivation: Article m.64 “Purpose and Principles” is the opening article of new Chapter 6 (Homologation of Fencing Equipment and Materials). The old M Book addressed homologation primarily in Annexe A with introductory text, field of application, and process descriptions mixed together. The new article establishes clear foundational principles: mandatory homologation for FIE-logo equipment, the role of the SEMI Commission under COMEX supervision, the certificate issuance process, and the prohibition on production before homologation completion.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated opening article for the new Homologation chapter
2. Establishes the mandatory nature of homologation for all FIE-logo equipment
3. Clarifies SEMI Commission authority under COMEX supervision
4. Codifies the prohibition on production before certificate issuance

Chapter 6: Homologation of Fencing Equipment and Materials

m.64. Purpose and Principles

1. Fencing material used in official FIE competitions and carrying the FIE logo must, without exception, have obtained a valid FIE homologation certificate confirming that the specific item of material complies with all applicable FIE Rules including the competition requirements (Chapters 2–5).

2. The homologation procedure is carried out by the FIE SEMI Commission under the supervision of a representative of the FIE Executive Committee (COMEX) (m.65).
3. A homologation certificate is issued only after the equipment has successfully passed the complete homologation process described in this Chapter and in the relevant technical handbooks.
4. Manufacturers must wait for the homologation process to be completed, the result to be published and the certificate to be issued before beginning production and/or commercialization of equipment bearing the FIE logo, marks and label (m.70).

Proposal 108

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.65

Motivation: Article m.65 “SEMI Commission and Expert Involvement” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book mentioned the SEMI Commission’s composition briefly in Annexe A but did not enumerate its specific responsibilities or formalize expert involvement requirements. The new article defines six core SEMI Commission responsibilities and establishes mandatory involvement of Rules Commission delegates for software homologation and Refereeing Commission delegates for video-refereeing systems.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article defining SEMI Commission responsibilities for homologation
2. Enumerates six specific responsibilities from application review to penalty recommendation
3. Formalizes external expert consultation authority
4. Mandates Rules Commission and Refereeing Commission delegates for software and video systems

m.65. SEMI Commission and Expert Involvement

1. SEMI Commission Responsibilities

1. Review and approval of homologation applications.
2. Oversight of laboratory testing and certification.
3. Maintenance of approved equipment lists.
4. Quality control and random testing.
5. Investigation of non-conforming equipment.
6. Recommendation of penalties for violations.

2. Expert Involvement

1. When necessary, the SEMI Commission may consult external experts from relevant technical fields in order to ensure the quality and reliability of the homologation process.
2. For software homologation, the presence of a delegate from the Rules Commission is mandatory.
3. For video-refereeing systems, the presence of a delegate from the Refereeing Commission is mandatory.

Proposal 109

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.66

Motivation: Article m.66 “Equipment for Homologation” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book’s Annexe A contained a brief “field of application” paragraph listing equipment categories in running text. The new article provides a structured enumeration of all equipment categories requiring compulsory homologation (blades, points, protective clothing, masks and gloves, scoring apparatus, pistes, video-refereeing systems, and competition management software), with an explicit extensibility clause and a distinction for traditional pointes d’arrêt.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article enumerating equipment categories requiring homologation
2. Provides a structured list replacing the old running-text description
3. Adds an explicit extensibility clause for the FIE Executive Committee
4. Distinguishes traditional pointes d’arrêt from designs requiring separate homologation

m.66. Equipment for Homologation

1. Homologation is compulsory for at least the following categories of equipment: a. Blades. b. Points (foil and épée). (m.66.4) c. Protective clothing (jackets, breeches, under-plastrons). d. Masks and gloves. e. Fencing scoring apparatus (wired and wireless). f. Conductive pistes. g. Video-refereeing systems. h. Competition management software.
2. This list is not exhaustive. The FIE Executive Committee may extend the list of equipment requiring homologation at any time.
3. Homologated equipment must also comply with the competition-side obligations in this Book.

4. Traditional pointes d'arrêt of standard design are accepted for use in FIE competitions without requiring separate homologation. All other pointe d'arrêt designs require homologation under this Chapter.

Proposal 110

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.67

Motivation: Article m.67 “Homologation” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book’s Annexe A described the homologation process in eight numbered steps mixing procedural details with administrative requirements. The new article restructures this into five clear sub-sections: Process (referencing the Materials Homologation Handbook), Laboratory (approved institutes), Provisional Homologation (competition testing), Final Analysis and Issuing of the Certificate, and Publication of homologation decisions.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article for the homologation process and certificate issuance
2. References the Materials Homologation Handbook for detailed procedural steps
3. Establishes provisional homologation for competition-condition evaluation
4. Formalizes certificate issuance requirements (physical or digital) and publication on the FIE website

m.67. Homologation

1. Process

The request for homologation must follow the process detailed in the Materials Homologation Handbook.

2. Laboratory

The list of specialized institutes and/or laboratories approved by the SEMI Commission is updated regularly and communicated to the Executive Committee.

3. Provisional Homologation

1. For equipment that must be evaluated under competition conditions, the SEMI Commission may grant a provisional homologation limited to use at one specific competition.

2. The competition used for such testing is agreed between the SEMI President, the representative of the Executive Committee, the supplier, and the organizer of the selected competition.

4. Final Analysis and Issuing of the Certificate

1. Every member of the SEMI Commission must receive the full documentation.
2. Full homologation documentation is not made publicly available.
3. Only the President or their designee may issue the FIE Certificate.
4. The FIE Certificate must either be issued physically with the signature of the SEMI President or their designee or use software that provides a digital certificate.

5. Publication

1. Final homologation decisions are published on the FIE website.
2. CE/EC certificates and test reports are issued by specialized institutes; the SEMI Commission maintains and publishes lists of equipment that has obtained FIE homologation, together with the corresponding certificates.

Proposal 111

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.68

Motivation: Article m.68 “Homologation Modification Management” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book did not contain explicit rules governing modifications to homologated equipment or the consequences of unreported changes. The new article establishes that homologation remains valid for the duration specified in certificates provided no modification is made, requires immediate reporting of safety- or performance-affecting modifications to the SEMI President, mandates full re-homologation for modified equipment, and defines the scope of modifications (external appearance, composition, internal structure, software/firmware, and manufacturing process).

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article for managing modifications to homologated equipment
2. Establishes validity duration tied to certificates and technical handbooks
3. Requires immediate notification of modifications affecting safety or performance
4. Defines a comprehensive scope of what constitutes a modification requiring re-homologation

m.68. Homologation Modification Management

1. Homologation remains valid for the duration specified in the issued certificates and relevant technical handbooks, provided that no modification is made to the equipment or to its manufacturing process (see Materials Handbook).
2. Any modification to homologated equipment that affects the safety or performance of the original equipment must be reported immediately to the President of the SEMI Commission.
 - a. Modified equipment must undergo the full homologation process again.
 - b. Modifications include any change affecting:
 - i. External appearance.
 - ii. Composition or materials.
 - iii. Internal structure or content.
 - iv. Software, firmware, or embedded logic.
 - v. Manufacturing process or any other element relevant to safety or performance.

Proposal 112

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.69

Motivation: Article m.69 “Technical Handbooks” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book referenced technical requirements within the body of the rules themselves and in Annexe A without a formal framework for standalone technical handbooks. The new article establishes that technical handbooks are drawn up by the SEMI Commission and approved by the Executive Committee, defines their content (detailed technical requirements, test methods and acceptance criteria, validity periods), and cross-references them throughout the Book.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article formalizing the role of technical handbooks in the rules framework
2. Establishes SEMI Commission authorship with Executive Committee approval
3. Defines required handbook content: technical requirements, test methods, and validity periods
4. Provides cross-references to the relevant chapters of this Book

m.69. Technical Handbooks

1. Technical handbooks are drawn up by the SEMI Commission and submitted to the Executive Committee for approval.
2. Each category of equipment has its own specific technical handbook setting out:
 - a. Detailed technical requirements.
 - b. Test methods and acceptance criteria.
 - c. Validity periods and conditions for re-homologation.
3. These handbooks are referenced throughout this Book, including m.27, m.28, m.42 and Chapter 5.

Proposal 113

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.70

Motivation: Article m.70 “FIE Mark and Label of Quality” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book mentioned the FIE quality label briefly in Annexe A (field of application) and in scattered references to quality labels on clothing and equipment, but did not dedicate an article to trademark protection, authorized use, manufacturer guarantees, or misuse consequences. The new article establishes the FIE emblem as a registered trademark, restricts its use to successfully homologated equipment from suppliers in good standing, requires manufacturers to guarantee compliance, and references enforcement under m.71–m.73.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article for FIE trademark and quality label protection
 2. Establishes authorized use conditions: valid homologation and good standing
 3. Codifies manufacturer guarantee of compliance when affixing the FIE label
 4. References enforcement actions under m.71, m.72, and m.73 for misuse
-

m.70. FIE Mark and Label of Quality

1. The FIE emblem is a registered trademark.
 2. The emblem and any FIE label of quality may only be affixed to equipment that has successfully completed the FIE homologation process, holds a valid homologation certificate and is a supplier of good standing with the FIE.
 3. By affixing the FIE label of quality to their equipment, manufacturers guarantee that all such marked equipment complies with the technical and safety requirements of the FIE.
 4. The FIE label of quality must remain visible and legible.
 5. Misuse may result in actions under m.71, m.72, and m.73.
-

Proposal 114

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.71

Motivation: Article m.71 “Expenses” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book addressed examination expenses only briefly in a single clause (old m.50) limited to SEMI Commission examination costs. The new article broadens the scope to cover all expenses and costs related to homologation, re-homologation, periodic checks, and modification-related reviews across all equipment categories, placing the financial responsibility entirely on the applicant.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article consolidating all homologation-related expense responsibilities
2. Broadens the scope beyond examination costs to include re-homologation and periodic checks
3. Covers all equipment categories explicitly (masks, blades, clothing, apparatus, software, video)
4. Places financial responsibility clearly on the applicant

m.71. Expenses

All expenses and costs related to the homologation, re-homologation, periodic checks and modification-related reviews of equipment, including but not limited to masks, blades, breeches, jackets, under-plastrons, pistes, scoring apparatus, software and video systems, are borne by the applicant.

Proposal 115

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.72

Motivation: Article m.72 “Withdrawal, Suspension, or Reinstatement of Homologation” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book did not contain explicit procedures for withdrawing, suspending, or reinstating homologation, nor did it enumerate enforcement measures beyond the general homologation process. The new article establishes grounds for withdrawal or suspension (non-conformity, competition-checking findings, unreported modifications), requires notification and publication of decisions, provides for reinstatement via the Materials Homologation Handbook, and enumerates five categories of additional enforcement measures.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article for homologation withdrawal, suspension, and reinstatement
2. Defines three specific grounds for withdrawal or suspension
3. Requires manufacturer notification and public decision publication on the FIE website
4. Enumerates five enforcement measures from formal warnings to public notification of findings

m.72. Withdrawal, Suspension, or Reinstatement of Homologation

1. Homologation may be withdrawn or suspended by the SEMI Commission if it becomes aware that: a. The homologated equipment no longer conforms to the applicable FIE Rules; or b. Consistent non-conformities identified during competition checking (Chapter 5); or c. After homologation has been granted, the equipment or its manufacturing process has been significantly modified, and the modification has not been submitted for a new homologation.
2. In case of withdrawal, suspension or reinstatement, the SEMI Commission informs the manufacturer and publishes the decision and its effective date on the FIE website.
3. Reinstatement of homologation follows the procedure specified in the Materials Homologation Handbook.
4. The SEMI Commission may, in addition to withdrawal or suspension, impose the following measures: a. Formal warnings. b. Requirements for corrective action within a specified timeframe. c. Financial penalties, the schedule and amounts of which are determined by the FIE. d. Temporary prohibition from submitting new homologation applications for a specified period. e. Public notification of non-conformity findings.
5. Penalty types for these measures are detailed in the Materials Homologation Handbook (mh.10).

Proposal 116

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Article m.73

Motivation: Article m.73 “Quality Control” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book did not contain a dedicated quality control framework for homologated equipment. The new article establishes ongoing periodic reviews for all homologated equipment, empowers the SEMI Commission to obtain and test random market samples, defines the process for handling non-conformities discovered through quality control, and references enforcement measures under m.72 for serious cases.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article for post-homologation quality control
2. Establishes mandatory periodic reviews with published schedules
3. Empowers the SEMI Commission to conduct random market sampling and independent testing
4. Defines escalation procedures for non-conformity findings including potential homologation loss

m.73. Quality Control

1. Homologated equipment must be subject to ongoing periodic reviews following approval to maintain homologation status. The periodic review requirements, including frequency and method of evaluation are defined separately for each weapon and category of equipment (see Materials Handbook).
2. The applicable periodic review schedule, including any periodic evaluation requirements, is established and published through official FIE channels.
3. The FIE reserves the right to amend the periodic review schedule and associated requirements.
4. Failure to complete periodic checks within the timeframes specified in the relevant technical handbooks may result in withdrawal of homologation under m.72.
5. The SEMI Commission may obtain random samples of any specific item of fencing equipment available on the market that is claimed to be FIE-homologated.
6. These samples may be subjected to technical analysis for quality control purposes.
7. If there is any doubt as to the quality of the item, the SEMI Commission may send it directly to a certified independent institute for testing.
8. Tests are carried out in accordance with the applicable FIE material rules and relevant regulatory standards.
9. If the tests reveal any non-conformity or degradation in quality, the SEMI Commission takes appropriate measures, which may include those specified in m.72.
10. In serious cases, the manufacturer may lose an existing FIE homologation for the equipment concerned (m.72, m.68).

Proposal 117

Presented by: SEMI Commission

Note 1

Motivation: Note 1 “Distinction Between Homologation and Event-Specific Approval” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book did not explicitly distinguish between manufacturer-level homologation and event-specific apparatus approval, which led to confusion among stakeholders. The new note clarifies the two distinct processes: homologation (Chapter 6) certifies a design and manufacturing process across all competitions, while event-specific approval (Chapter 4, Section 2) authorizes specific apparatus for use at one World Championship or Olympic Games. Both processes are required for scoring apparatus at official FIE competitions.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated explanatory note distinguishing two commonly confused processes

2. Clarifies that homologation is manufacturer-level certification valid across all competitions
 3. Clarifies that event-specific approval authorizes apparatus for one particular competition
 4. States that both processes are required for scoring apparatus at official FIE competitions
-

Note 1: Distinction Between Homologation and Event-Specific Approval

1. The homologation process described in this Chapter is distinct from the event-specific approval process for scoring apparatus described in Chapter 4, Section 2 (Authorization and Event-Level Approval).
 2. Homologation concerns manufacturer compliance (Chapter 6): Certifies that a design and manufacturing process for a category of equipment meets FIE technical and safety standards. Valid for the duration specified in technical handbooks, across all competitions.
 3. Event-specific apparatus approval concerns use at a particular competition (Chapter 4, Section 2): Approves a specific set of scoring apparatus, spools, and connections for use at one World Championship or Olympic Games.
 4. Both processes are required for scoring apparatus used at official FIE competitions.
-

Proposals for the 2026 Congress

Modifications of the Publicity Code

The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.

Proposal 118

Presented by: Rules Commission

Article: p.12

Motivation: Add clarity to p12.2 and format language versions. Article p12.2 has confusing language and inconsistent formatting between the versions. Adopting the Spanish format and clarifying language would make this more easily understood.

p.12 Advertising which is worn or carried

2. Fencing clothing and equipment

- a) If a federation and/or a fencer have signed a sponsorship contract with a commercial or other company, the logo of that sponsorship partner may be fixed at a rate of maximum of 3 logos, with a maximum area of 85 cm² each;

In foil and epee: at the top of the sleeve of the non-sword arm of the fencing jacket; in sabre: at the top of the thigh of the non-sword side of the fencing breeches and clearly separated from the national logo.

- on the socks;
- on the glove, a maximum of one logo of 30 cm², printed on the cuff, (attachment by sewing and gluing is not allowed);
- on the collarbones, a maximum of two logos, one each side, with a maximum area of 50cm² each;
- on the collar of the fencing jacket or electric fencing jacket, a maximum of one logo with a maximum area of 30 cm²;
- on the back, a maximum of one logo, below the nationality code, with a maximum area of 250 cm².

The sponsor's logo may be displayed on each side of the mask. Maximum size: 100 cm² on each side of the mask.

~~a)~~ b) A fencer may not display more than ten such logos in total.

Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the SEMI Commission: Approved

Opinion of the PCM Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the proposal.