



**CONFEDERACION
PANAMERICANA DE ESGRIMA**



2015 ACTIVITIES

PAN AMERICAN FENCING CONFEDERATION

2015 was a year filled with enriching events in the sport of fencing on our continent. We had the Pan American Youth and Cadet Championships, with many talented fencers with bright futures. There was also the Adult Category Pan American Championship and the qualifications for the Pan American Games, where a surprising level of skill was on display. The event was also attended by Olympic and world medal holders who helped to promote competitiveness and build greater interest among athletes to participate in the sport. The 2015 Pan American Games in Toronto showcased unprecedented advances made in fencing in America, as could be seen by the media coverage, including broadcasting results and interviews of the event's champions.

Technical preparation should not take a back seat and the PAFC in conjunction with PASO organized excellent courses for coaches with highly-experienced instructors from Guatemala and Costa Rica to help build the knowledge base among coaches in America.

We were very pleased to have the opportunity to meet in San Salvador and hold the elective congress. As a result of this, my friends, I have the challenge of leading our continent for four years in the search for more champions and a greater role for the Americas in the world as we approach the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, another festive event that we are proud to hold in America.

Sincerely,



Vitaly Logvin
Chairman of the PAFC

ZONE CHAMPIONSHIPS

- 2015 PAN AMERICAN CADET AND YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS, TORONTO, CANADA. From February 2-8, 2015, the Pan American Championships in the Cadet and Youth categories were held in Toronto, Canada, where the Pan American Games will be held this July. These categories continue to show increasing levels of skill and put on a great show for all. At this year's competition, Jamaica got its first Pan American gold medal, highlighting advances made by new fencing federations.



- 2015 PAN AMERICAN ADULT CHAMPIONSHIPS, SANTIAGO, CHILE. From April 18-23, 2015 the Adult Category Pan American Championships were held in the city of Santiago de Chile. The event also served as the qualifications for the Pan American Games in Toronto. Enthusiasm for the zone championships as well as the level of competition have been increasing steadily thanks to the participation of Olympic and world medalists and greater interest in covering these events by the media. The fact that this event was also the qualifications for the Pan American Games led to very high levels of attendance by athletes, record numbers for participation for zone championships in the adult category.



- ✚ 2015 PAN AMERICAN YOUTH AND VETERAN CHAMPIONSHIPS, LIMA, PERU. From August 3-5 the Pan American Youth and Veteran Championships were held, attended by many national federations. At this year's event, participants once again experienced a festive and harmonious atmosphere. Year after year this competition has been gaining popularity among fencers from our continent, and offers an excellent opportunity to promote the bond of family and to spread the Olympic spirit of competition.

More than 200 athletes took part in this event, who came together to experience it to the maximum, giving their all to attain victory.



2015 TORONTO PAN AMERICAN GAMES

The 2015 Toronto Pan American Games had a festive atmosphere this year, with fencing bouts being held from July 20-25. Some of the best fencers from our continent that had previously qualified in the Adult Category Pan American Championship in April 2015 in Santiago de Chile came together for the event. The PAFC worked together with the organizing committee, the Canadian Fencing Federation, and PASO to ensure the success of this year's Pan American bout. The championship was attended by athletes with outstanding track records such as Olympic champion Rubén Limardo as well as many others. It featured the participation of countries that met for the first time in an event like this, showing that the sport of fencing is well on track to meet future sporting commitments.



CONTINENTAL COACHES' COURSES

- CONTINENTAL COURSE IN THE SPECIALTY OF FOIL. From May 10 to 15 the Continental Coaches' Courses were held in the City of Guatemala. The courses were organized jointly by PASO and PAFC, and attended by a total of 21 national federations and 40 coaches. The courses' instructors were the renowned Spanish masters Javier Villapalos and Raúl Peinador, who shared their knowledge with coaches to help improve their high-performance training skills.



CONTINENTAL COURSE IN THE SPECIALTY OF EPÉE. From May 24 to 29 the Continental Epée Courses were held in the city of San Jose, Costa Rica, organized jointly by PASO and PAFC and attended by two great proponents of the épée: master Jerzy Konckzalsky (Poland) and master Jose Benavides (Venezuela). This course, like the one held in Guatemala, was of great importance since coaches were also given sports equipment so each attendee could return to their home country with the equipment needed to offer classes to young fencers.

Twenty-six national federations attended the course, with a total of 35 participants taking what was learned home to apply it and pass it on to their students and colleagues in their respective countries.



WORLD CUPS IN AMERICA

America was once again home to the Youth World Cups, which help to promote and advance these youth categories. Before, few American athletes would have the opportunity to attend events such as this and earn points in the youth rankings. Now, with the World Youth Cup being held in Central America, more athletes in the area and areas surrounding the continent can have the opportunity to compete in high-level events and position themselves in the world rankings in their categories.

- ✚ SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA. INDIVIDUAL AND TEAM FEMALE YOUTH SABER WORLD CUP, SEPTEMBER 19-20, 2015. Eleven countries came together in Costa Rica to put on the World Cup in the Female Youth Sabre category, with 41 athletes registering. Highlights included the participation of the United States and Mexico, who took first place in individual and team events. Seven teams took part in the competition.



- ✚ GUATEMALA. INDIVIDUAL AND TEAM FEMALE YOUTH WORLD CUP IN FOIL, OCTOBER 10-11, 2015. Fourteen countries took part in this competition, with 37 athletes registering. For the second consecutive year, Guatemala hosted the World Cup in the Female Youth Foil category, a competition that has seen considerable growth. This year saw a high-level competition dominated by the representatives of Canada and Brazil. The competition was attended by all the Central American countries, which illustrates the increasing participation of countries which in the past had no access to high-level competitions like the World Cup.



🇸🇻 SAN SALVADOR, EL SALVADOR. INDIVIDUAL MALE YOUTH WORLD CUP IN EPÉE, NOVEMBER 7, 2015. Some 17 countries and 32 athletes registered for the World Cup in Epée in the Individual Men's Youth category, where three athletes from our continent took the podium and were awarded the fiercely contended medals. The event was an exciting occasion for attendees and sporting authorities alike, since despite the fact that several athletes from Europe and Asia were in attendance, representatives of their countries rose to the occasion and came out on top in the competition.



**DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM:
"FROM SCHOOL TO THE OLYMPICS - FENCING IN
SCHOOLS AS A WAY TO PROMOTE THE SPORT"**

The PAFC, as part of its program to advance and promote fencing, has implemented the "FROM SCHOOL TO THE OLYMPICS - FENCING IN SCHOOLS AS A WAY TO PROMOTE THE SPORT" which aims to provide initial instruction to children to promote the popularity of fencing and encourage interest with an eye towards advancing towards advancing high-level fencing. This pilot project was launched in 2013 in schools in Vancouver, Canada. By year's end it had more than 2,000 youth actively involved in the sport of fencing. School authorities recognized the benefit in students excelling in the sport, since it helps them to qualify for high school and university scholarships. Over the course of the West Vancouver project, 10 school fencing clubs were opened in schools. The West Vancouver School Board declared fencing to be an official sport in their schools, and established a private fencing academy, the headquarters for school fencing clubs.



After the successes of the pilot project in 2016, the PAFC is planning to use the program for new and smaller fencing federations in the American continent, with the first phase starting in El Salvador and expanding later into Latin America.



2015 Pan American champion and 2012 Olympic champion Rubén Limardo joined the project for this new phase of FROM SCHOOL TO THE OLYMPICS, who is helping to promote the philosophy of teaching fencing in schools. As an ambassador for the program, he is also acting as one of the primary promoters of the sport in schools where the program has been implemented, and in the future will take part in actions at the different centers.



CONGRESSES

On May 30, 2015, in San Salvador, an extraordinary congress was convened to designate the location of the 2016 Pan American Championship in the Adult Category, since the United States Fencing Federation was unable to put on the event. After Canada and Panama were presented as candidates, a vote was held and Panama was appointed to host the 2016 Adult Category Pan American Championships.



On August 15, 2015, in San Salvador, the elective congress was convened to appoint officials for the 2015-2019 term. At the extraordinary congress also held in May in San Salvador an agreement was reached to convene the elective congress in San Salvador as

well so that all of the presidents could take part and attendance would be at 100%. At the congress, the Nicaraguan and El Salvadoran federations nominated Mr. Vitaly Logvin as a candidate for the presidency. The motion was supported by all participating countries and Mr. Logvin was unanimously elected Chairman of the Pan American Fencing Confederation for the 2015-2019 term. At the same time, Mr. Donald Anthony Jr. was elected Senior Vice President, Mayor Víctor Sergio Groupierre was elected Second Vice President, and Mr. Luís Alberto Cruz was elected as Third Vice President. The new executive board was sworn in by the outgoing president and took on the ongoing commitment to work for the advancement of fencing in America.



The annual International Fencing Federation (FIE) congress was held in the city of Guangzhou, China, from November 20-22. The event brought together all of the national federations affiliated to the International Fencing Federation. Highlights included

participation of countries from the American region. The event had an atmosphere of harmony and family closeness, and a commitment to work together to advance fencing in America was made.

