

Agenda
Special Meeting of the
USA Fencing Board of Directors
Greater Columbus Convention Center Room B132
July 7, 2019 at 1:00 pm ET
1-877-885-3221 Passcode: 6869204

I. General Information and Organizational Items

General Announcements

Remarks – Donald Anthony, President

II. Consent Agenda Items (Mr. Anthony)

1. To approve the minutes of the April 30, 2019 and June 23, 2019 meetings.
2. To approve the financial reports for March and April 2019.
3. To receive the Division Resource Team minutes (**Appendix A**), Election Committee report (**Appendix B**), Referees' Commission Report (**Appendix C**), US SEMI Committee Report (**Appendix D**) and Tournament Committee Report (**Appendix E**).

III. Executive Director's Report (Kris Ekeren)

IV. Finance Update (Doug Hayler)

Motion (Mr. Arias) to approve the quad budget as presented to the board.

V. Legal Update (Jim Neale)

VI. International Regional Circuit Update (Christine Simmons)

VII. Development Update (Jill Grotzinger)

VIII. New Business

Motion (Mr. Alperstein): to amend the material rules as follows:

M25.7. e:

e) The bib of the mask must be made with cloth resistant to 1600 Newtons.

Replace with “350 Newtons”

M25.7. f:

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

Replace with:

f) 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 S.E.M.I. Commission:

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™ must 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.**

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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, when present, remains mandatory.**

For USA Fencing competitions the retrofit of existing masks, including FIE masks, to the new design is allowed, subject to verification by Equipment Check (approval of the Head Technician).

Appendix A 2.2

4.3 Bibs: (p.177)

~~The bib of the mask must be made with cloth resistant to 1600 Newton, to be tested by the methods described in 3.1, below~~

Replace with “350 Newtons”

4.5 Test and Certificates: (p.178)

DELETE 4.5

Implementation: FIE homologated masks used in National events will be required to conform to the amended rules no later than 1 Aug 2020; all masks used in National events will be required to conform to the amended rules no later than 1 Aug 2021; all masks used in any USA Fencing event will be required to conform to the amended rules no later than 1 Aug 2022.

MOTION (Mr. Alperstein as liaison to the Referees' Commission): To adopt for USA Fencing, and incorporate into The Rules of Competition, the rule changes approved at the December 2018 FIE Congress as set forth in **Appendix F** to this Motion, to take effect in USA Fencing competitions as of August 1, 2019. In addition, the USA Fencing note to Rule t.71 shall be revised to read as follows:

Regarding the seventh bullet point of t.71 note that this element of the rule will be phased in and become effective on the same implementation schedule as for the 2019 revisions to m.25.7 and the relevant appendices. In FIE competitions, the requirement that a 2nd security device be securely fixed to the body of the mask became effective with the 2018-2019 season.

RATIONALE: At the December 2018 Congress, the FIE adopted multiple changes to the international rule book. One of these changes (the “unwillingness to fight” rule, t.24) was previously approved by the Board because of its immediate implementation in international competition. Other changes were given delayed effect, and in order to remain abreast of the rules being used internationally, USA Fencing should approve them now. Because it is anticipated that the rule requiring a second security device will be adopted with phase implementation, the note to Rule t.71 advises athletes and referees that enforcement will change even though the wording of the rule will not.

Motion (Mr. Watson): The USA Fencing Hall of Fame Committee (HOF) requests special consideration from the Board of Directors to name Dick Berry to the USA Fencing Hall of Fame Class of 2020, in addition to the five (5) nominees who are elected by the membership.

Rationale: In the 2018 Hall of Fame Task Force report, the HOF committee was given the ability to request approval from the board to name one individual in each class if special circumstances exist. The HOF Committee believes that this is a special circumstance.\

Dick Berry has been on the HOF ballot five (5) times. Dick Berry is in his late 80s and he still has some connection to fencing in his local area. However, a nominee like Dick Berry realistically may never be elected into the HOF because he is not as well known by the current membership and he does not have the networking contacts that more currently well-known nominees have to promote their candidacy in order to get votes. As Carla-Mae Richards notes, "he is of another generation not known by many of the voters". He is certainly qualified to be in the HOF.

IX. Good and Welfare

X. Recess to Executive Session

XI. Executive Session

XII. Adjournment

Appendix A

Name:	Division Resource Team
Meeting Minutes:	May – June 2019
Members Absent:	Rebecca Chimahusky (new Athlete Representative)
Members Present:	Linda Merritt, Rich Weiss, Allen Evans, Jerry Benson, Jennifer Nollner, Fernando Delgado
Board Liaison:	Donald Alperstein (Absent)
Staff Liaison:	Christine Strong Simmons/Bob Bodor

The Division Resource Team discussed the minimum requirements that are in place for Divisions and how to get all Divisions in compliance in these areas. There are few Divisions that don't follow any of the minimum requirements listed below and the group discussed next steps in assisting these Divisions.

- Financial Report Submission
- Officer Report Submission
- Tournament Sanctioning Report
- Qualifier Tournament Report(s)

The group also talked about additional resources that should be developed to further assist Division leaders. This includes equipment and business development grants from USA Fencing.

The Division Resource Team examined the number of current divisions (67) and if there are instances where consolidation with another division makes sense. The National Division is also a possibility for members that do not have an active division.

Appendix B

Election Committee Report to the Board of Directors

June 20, 2019

Submitted by Dan Berke, Election Committee Chair

This year, the Election Committee was tasked with planning the election for two at-large positions on the Board of Directors and the 2020 Hall of Fame Nominees election.

Three candidates were running for the two positions on the Board of Directors: Donald Alperstein, Michael Aufrichtig and Ann Marsh Senic, all of whom were selected by the Nominating Committee. No petitions were submitted for this election.

The election this year proceeded smoothly. Upon conclusion of the election, the Election Committee received the results and contacted the candidates. There were 9988 eligible voters, with 1471 (14.7%) individuals casting a vote. This is an improvement over the 12% turnout seen last year.

The results were as follows:

At-Large Director (2 to be elected):

Donald Alperstein	802 votes (32%, <i>elected</i>)
Michael Aufrichtig	767 votes (31%)
Ann Marsh-Senic	904 votes (37%, <i>elected</i>)

Hall of Fame Athletes (3 to be elected):

Dick Berry	288 votes (10%)
Edward Donofrio	261 votes (9%)
Harold Goldsmith	227 votes (8%)
Daniel Magay	183 votes (7%)
Sean McClain	353 votes (13%)
Steve Mormando	437 votes (16%, <i>elected</i>)
Akhnaten Spencer-EL	687 votes (25%, <i>elected</i>)
Justin Tausig	355 votes (13%, <i>elected</i>)

Hall of Fame Coaches (2 to be elected):

Gerald Cetrulo	453 votes (27%, <i>elected</i>)
Elliot Lilien	170 votes (10%)
Tony Orsi	438 votes (26%, <i>elected</i>)
Mikhail Petin	391 votes (23%)
Semyon Pinkhasov	214 votes (13%)

Finally, the Committee would like to thank Nicole Jomantas at the National Office for her support and hard work on the election. Her quick responses to requests and questions from the Committee were greatly appreciated and are a large reason why the election ran so smoothly.

As Chair, I also want to thank committee members Michael McTigue, Susan Belanich, Sam Cheris, and Dagmara Wozniak for their participation on the Committee.

Sincerely,
Dan Berke
USFA Election Committee Chair

Appendix C

REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FROM THE REFEREES' COMMISSION 6/22/19

The Referees' Commission (RC) has been making progress towards its annual plan. I have attached the reports of the sub-committees to this summary.

As Chair of the RC I have handled two formal allegations of breaches of the Code of Ethics by referees. Parents of minor athletes brought both complaints against a single referee. The issue was the referee presiding over a bout for fencers of a club for which he had worked for 6 months, but approximately 5 years ago. In one of the bouts the coach of the other fencer objected as well since he had fired the referee. Additionally the referee was working in the same division as one of the fencers. The referee, did not appear to be incompetent nor biased, but was unconcerned with his violation of the conflict of interest rule, since he didn't know any of the fencers involved. He was issued a letter of reprimand and put on probation for one year with a directive to follow the conflict of interest rules to the letter and if he was unsure of the home clubs or divisions of the fencers, to ask the assigner or head referee before taking a bout.

The Ombudsman Group has over 800 followers on its Facebook page. An average of 869 people are reached by each post with a high of 3,187 and a low of 163. This is a significant increase from last season. It appears that the page is being viewed internationally as well and setting the tone for referee relations in other federations. Two members of the Group have been present at each National event and have counseled over 60 referees. They have also attended more than 50 regional events. The major issue has been sexual harassment, which consumed 70% of the Committee's time. The duration of National events remains a concern and may impact the number of quality referees willing to work these events. Lack of clear understanding of the Safe Sport procedure remains high.

The Domestic Development Committee has formulated an approach to referee improvement that encompasses Recruitment, Development, Deployment and Closed Loop Feedback, as further defined in the committee's attached report. Among the accomplishments this season - 50 regional seminars, 62 exam registration since January, 6 new wheelchair referees for national events, successful coach engagement through co-hosted seminars at national events, a video library has been started with basic fencing actions for use in training, 12 new CRIs and CROs have been added across the country. Coach and athlete surveys have been conducted. There has been a successful launch of the Dartfish Channel with over 300 assessments having been done. Safe Sport issues involving referees, both as actors and victims, still show the need for a cultural shift. The problems exist locally, regionally as well as nationally and encompass physical, mental and emotional abuses.

The Rules Committee has updated the Rule Book to account for changes put in place by the FIE

at their December 2018 Congress. The non-combativity rule change which was adopted prior to the JOs required significant communications and coordination with FIE Arbitrage, FIE Referees and national coaches in foil and epee. The Referee exam experienced numerous challenges this season due to the previous web host shutting down and the work needed to migrate the exam to new platforms, first ePath and then Brillium. The Referee study guide is in process of being revised. Rules Blog hosting was also moved from the old RC site to that of USAFencing. The Committee continues to answer all questions from the membership within the week-long response window. Items in progress include an update of the referee exam question bank, an update of the referee exam study guide and re-write of the entire referee exam.

The International Assignments and Development Committee has developed advisory committees in each weapon and IWAS to make recommendations on which referees to prioritize for international assignments. The Committee Chair has been working with its FIE Advisor to determine candidates for fall 2019 FIE referee exam, coordinating the advisory groups and completing the international assignments for the 2019-20 season. The Chair has been working with current US FIE-licensed referees to prevent unintended inactivations. In order to have better communications, a Facebook group has been created, Closed meetings have been held at NACs for international referees and open skills lectures/labs will be held at national events. In order to make the RC more accessible, the IADC has established office hours for questions. Other committees of the RC will be invited to join. A formal pipeline group is being developed to clarify what it takes to go from the domestic stage to FIE referee.

The Domestic Assignment committee has assigned each member of the DAC to hire for one national event per season. All hiring targets were met except for March NAC, which continues to be very difficult to staff. Referee Coordinators and Assignors were determined for all events. Schedules are being reviewed with an eye toward optimal referee usage. The committee has been working to update and maintain referee email lists for hiring. The DAC assures that it has the correct arrival and departures dates and times, that referees have current SafeSport eligibility and that minors have completed authorization forms. Referee usage is being tracked including workday length and assignors are determining the ratings level worked by each referee in each event.

Respectfully submitted,

Sam Cheris
Chair, Referees' Commission

For the 2017-2018 season our Ombudsman Committee is comprised of the following regional members:

- Tasha Poissant
- Bobby Gibbs
- Michael Ross
- Susan Borgos
- Lisa Sapery
- Ivan Lee
- Patrick Webster
- Tim Bookwalter

This is a mix of new people along with the Committee and referees who have previously served, but we have maintained the mix varied regions, weapons, genders and levels. We feel this is important to reach the maximum number of referees possible. We are also still finding our voice as we struggle with the conflict between a traditional Ombudsman role and our hybrid version. A traditional Ombudsman is truly independent and we are all working referees, so this can lead to a bit of a conflict when we advocate in areas where a traditional Ombudsman would have a more balanced approach. We will continue to work on this as the season progresses. This includes more effective collaboration with the RC before we publish our posts and a more balanced message.

With every “follow” we get on our Facebook page, with every click on our posts; we feel we are increasing the positive engagement with the RC and to some extent with the National Office. To date we have over 800 followers on our Facebook page, all organic, which means we are up 140 likes over the same time in 2018, or 12 new likes per month. This number is significant as it indicates that we are potentially followed by every active national level referee. We know our reach has extended internationally and we are setting the tone for referee relations in other fencing federations. The statistics for our reach indicate some interesting things:

1. We average 869 people reached for each post, with a high of 3187 and a low of 163. When you eliminate the high and low numbers our reach is still 600 per post. These numbers are up significantly from 2017 where we averaged 450 people reached for each post, with a high of 1803 and a low of 30.
2. When we augment posts from USA Fencing regarding changes in times for NAC our reach doubles the average, which means more than just working referees at a specific event are reached by our posts

Published	Post	Type	Targeting	Reach <i>i</i>	Engagement
02/14/2019 3:10 PM	 Most members of the USA Fencing Refereeing Commission Ombudsman			208 	8 8 
02/04/2019 4:01 PM	This is a repost of the full text from the following source: All USA Fencing			1K 	152 26 
01/04/2019 4:00 PM	 Many members of the Ombudsman Committee will be present at the			163 	6 3 
01/03/2019 4:30 PM	The following is a repost of an article on the RC rules blog published on			384 	68 11 
01/03/2019 4:02 PM	 The following is a repost of the following article published by US			245 	12 3 
10/23/2018 1:02 PM	As a followup to our post earlier last week, Executive Director Kris Ekeren			591 	215 12 
10/15/2018 4:37 PM	 In US Fencing, there has been a trend to standardize operations.			3.2K 	1.9K 154 
09/14/2018 1:04 PM	Below is the full text of a post discussing the rules changes for the			1.1K 	373 43 

For all of the National events of the season we have had at least two members of the Ombudsman Committee present, and they have made their presence known by attending all meetings, announcing themselves in the referee corral and by publishing our schedules on our Facebook page in advance. At these events, we have met with and counseled with over 60 referees. We have also attended over 50 regional events and while we do not announce our presence at every event, as many do not have meetings, we do counsel referees at these events. From these events we have had several main takeaways from our discussions with the cadre:

1. There were concerns that we did not have a member of the sabre cadre as a part of our Committee. To that end we added Ivan Lee, whose credentials in our sport as unquestioned.
2. Sexual harassment has been the biggest issue this organization has faced during the 2018 season. This topic has consumed the lion's share of our time this season. We have fewer complaints about ratings and pay, rather 70% of our time is now spent counselling people who feel they have been victims of repeated unwanted sexual advances or sexual assault.
3. The National events are still running way too long and there are challenges with the hiring process. We feel this will impact the number of quality referees willing to work for USA Fencing if not addressed through better advance planning and coordination.
4. We still need a much clearer understanding of the SafeSport procedure. We have heard from several referees who have filed complaints and they have no understanding of the progression of their cases nor does there appear to be consistent reasoning that some cases move forward while others are dropped.



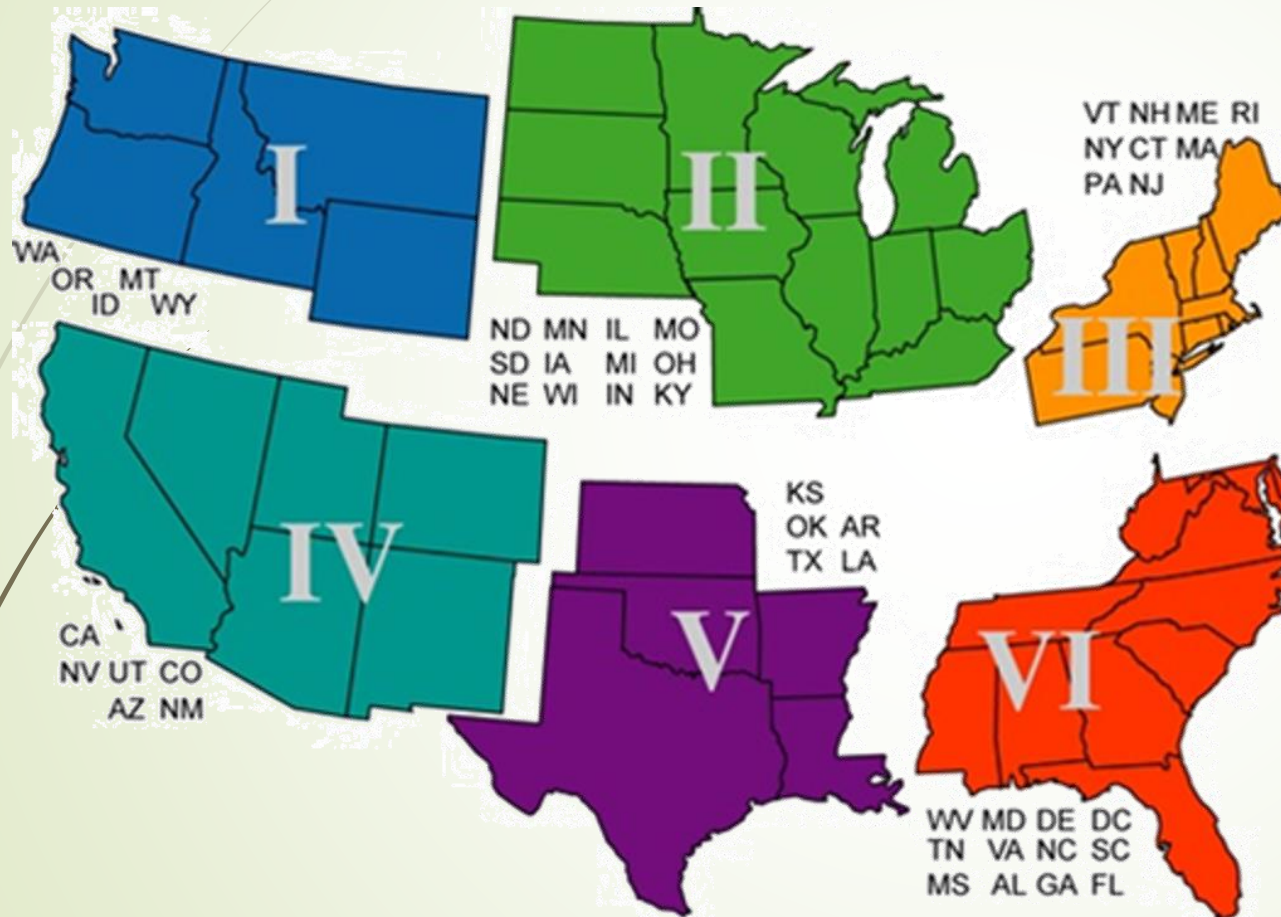
Domestic Referee Development

Patrick Webster

RC – Domestic Referee Development Committee (DRDC)

29May2019

Regionalization



DRDC Committee members by Region

VC DRDC – Patrick Webster (Region 2)

Region 1

Justin Meehan (WA)

Tasha Poissant (OR)

Kevin Mar (WA)

Region 2

Abbas Fadel (WI)

Sean Shumate (KY)

Region 3

David Sach (MA)

Lisa Campi-Saprey (NJ)

Bruce Gillman (NY)

Region 4

Bill Oliver (CO)

Peter Burchard (CA)

Region 5

Mark Stasinis (UT)

Region 6

Rylan Delap (AL)

Referee Development – Mission/Strategy

The DRDC has developed an approach to referee development that includes a 4 stage approach of Recruitment, Development, Deployment and Closed Loop Feedback.

► Recruitment

Strategies for recruiting referees to the local and regional levels, creating a national push list for bring regional referees ready for national event opportunities and passing those names and contact information to the domestic assignments hiring team.

► Development

Strategies for developing local, regional and national referees by connecting them with mentors, providing feedback on performance and opportunities for learning and growth. These initiatives also include developing Certified Referee Instructors and Observers to serve the 6 regions.

► Deployment

Strategies for facilitating opportunities for referees to gain experience around the country. Communication initiatives for making materials available. Helping regional hiring bodies know when new and developing referees are identified that meet the needs of events.

► Feedback

Strategies for communicating back to Referees, Certified Referee Instructors, Certified Referee Observers, the Referee's Commission and USA Fencing Staff the perspectives of the Coaches and Athletes regarding opportunities for continued improvement.

Referee Development – Accomplishments

The DRDC has developed an approach to referee development that includes a 4 stage approach of Recruitment, Development, Deployment and Closed Loop Feedback.

- Recruitment
 - Over 50 regional seminars given across the country during the 2018-2019 season
 - Summer Nationals Seminars with 70+ Participants during the 2017-2018 season summer nationals event
 - 62 Exam registrations since exam migration January 2019 (Old exam hosting did not provide Registration Data)
 - 6 Additional Wheelchair referees for national events (Successful IWAS Seminar during April NAC)
- Development
 - 88 New and Returning referees to the National stage year over year
 - Over 700 Referee Updates into the new national database since launch July 2018
 - “What’s the call?” initiatives on social media (i.e. Facebook) with positive feedback on impacts to the fencing community
 - Successful coach engagement through co-hosted seminars at National events
 - Over 300 individual assessments using Dartfish Tools at National Events (Successful launch of Dartfish Channel)
 - Video library started with basic fencing actions for use in training
- Deployment
 - National Database launched for better data analytics and regional hiring
 - 12 new CRIs and CROs across the country to aid with regional development
 - SharePoint for CRI/CRO Materials
- Feedback
 - Coaches Survey pilot during the April NAC (Results under review)
 - Athlete Survey pilot in coordination with USA Fencing Staff (Results vary)
 - Seminar Survey pilot pending automation from the new national database



Referee Development Policy Positions

- ▶ Safe Sport/Safe Environment

The current Safe Sport policies are not addressing the need for a cultural shift in the environment surrounding the sport of fencing with respect to women in the community feeling safe. This issue is not limited to women. This spans local regional and national events. This issue includes interactions with coaches, athletes, spectators and fellow officials. There have been examples of physical, mental and emotional abuses that still do not have a clear process for satisfactory resolution. This continues to put a greater burden on individual development and event staffing as we lose qualified individuals as a result of these abuses

- ▶ Minor Referees at National Events.


We have seen a reduction in minor referee development with the latest hire policy on minor referees at national events. This decision may need to be re-reviewed

- ▶ Referee Ratings

The DRDC is developing a proposal for a new ratings architecture for USA Fencing domestic referee ratings. Expected draft for August RC Meeting

- ▶ New Referee Database

The DRDC would like to see an automated survey sent from the national referee database when new updates are added from when a referee most recently took a seminar



Rules and Exams Annual Report - 2018-2019

Devin Donnelly, Vice Chair
Bradley Baker
Laura Decker
Tyler Jacobson



Rulebook Updates 2018-2019

- Updates during the 2018-2019 season (all changes approved by BoD):
 - Adopted the new international standard for non-combativity as of Junior Olympic Championships, February 2019
 - This change required extensive communication with FIE Arbitrage (thanks to Iana Dakova), FIE referees, and national coaches in foil and epee
 - Published a US-language version of the rule that attempted to alleviate some of the ambiguity in the international version
 - Used the Rules Blog to provide additional guidance
 - Answered extensive questions/complaints from USA Fencing membership via e-mail and Facebook messenger



Rulebook updates, continued

- The 2018 Congress made numerous clarification/wording updates throughout the technical rulebook (Book T) that did not result in substantive interpretation changes
 - Rulebook editor Bradley Baker has produced a summary of these changes for Board approval at the 2019 Summer meeting



Rules Issues, 2018-2019

The following rules issues required extensive attention and communication from the Rules Committee:

- T.143, “Unwillingness to Fight”
 - There was significant confusion as membership misinterpreted opinion pieces on social media with official word from USA Fencing, leading to several emotionally-charged contacts to both the National Office and VC Rules/Exams.
 - VC Rules/Exams tried to mitigate the conflicts somewhat by communicating directly with the blogs/writers publishing rumor and conjecture about the rule; success was mixed



Referee Exam Status

- The referee exam has experienced numerous issues as our previous hosting shut down, and the former Senior Manager of Coaching and Referee Education attempted to migrate the exam to a new hosting platform
 - This required extensive work and testing and still resulted in numerous errors in question transcription and administration
 - The exam was migrated again, from ePath to its current home at Brillium, without consultation with the Rules Committee
 - I believe an old copy of the exam was uploaded to Brillium, resulting in significant failure rates in the foil-specific portion
- Current status:
 - The Rules Committee chair assumed direct administrative control over the exam as of April 2019
 - I've fixed several problematic questions and removed all questions relating to Unwillingness to Fight for now
 - The exam question pool on Brillium is now out of sync with the Master Question bank document; needs update



Referee Exam Status, continued

- In addition, we've received a great deal of negative feedback (largely warranted) about the Referee Study Guide
 - A Rules Committee volunteer (Matt Tucker) and I undertook a project to revamp the study guide. We were perhaps 40% complete when I was informed by the Vice Chair of Domestic Development that he had assigned the task to someone else
 - Matt and I forwarded all of our in-progress work to that volunteer; status as of now unknown (to me)



Rules Blog posts

- The Rules Blog hosting has changed to the USA Fencing site
 - The administration of said blog is totally different and I'm behind on familiarizing myself with it
- Major use of the Rules Blog has been to communicate changes around Unwillingness to Fight
- Rules Blog posts have been below target rate for most of this year



Membership Questions

- The Rules Committee continues to answer all questions from the membership within the week-long response window to which we've committed.
- This includes approving designs for self-decorated masks.



Issues Outstanding

The following issues need resolving, in order of priority:

- Referee exam question bank update
 - The Master Question bank document needs to be updated to sync with the actual questions in the Brillium system
- Referee exam study guide
 - This task has been assumed by Domestic Development
- Referee exam re-write
 - The referee exam has largely settled for “patch” fixes--fixing individual question wording, removing the worst questions--rather than undergoing a full re-write; this is sustainable for now

International Assignments & Development

Status Report: May 2019

2018-2019 Committees & Roles in IA&D

FIE Advisor: Iana Dakova

IWAS Advisor: Jon Moss

Advisory Committees

- Foil: Doug Findlay, Devin Donnelly, Andrew Foster
- Epee: Donald Alperstein, Anne Crocket, Tyler Jacobson, Devin Donnelly, Peter Burchard
- Saber: Bill Becker, Ariana Klinkov, David Sach, Peter Burchard
- IWAS: Sean Shumate

2018-2019 Tasks

Advisory Committees

- Make group recommendation on referees to prioritize for international assignments at the junior and cadet level
- Make group decision on disciplinary action needed for referees, as needed

IWAS Committee

- Make recommendations for senior world cup assignments
- Assist IWAS Advisor with selection of candidates for IWAS Exam in April 2019

Vice-Chair

- Update 2018-2019 assignments as necessary during season
- Set up structure and get volunteers for roles for 2019-2020 season
- Referee work summary and evaluation reports
- Assist FIE Advisor with candidate selection for the fall 2019 FIE Exam
- Coordinate Advisory Group discussions for 2019-2020 season
- Complete and distribute international assignments for the 2019-2020 season

Needed Improvements for 2019-2020

Advisory Committees

- Shift focus to cadet assignments so junior assignments can better prepare referees for the senior list
- Incorporate all Master List referees onto the committees

IWAS Committee

- Grow Advisory group and participation
- Bring procedures more in line with FIE assignments
 - Will need National Office support in order to make assignments in advance

Vice-Chair

- Formalize roles for people dedicating time throughout the season to help with projects
- International and domestic data collection and feedback needs to be structured to be received throughout the season to even out workload

2019-2020 Structure & Roles

- FIE & IWAS Advisors will remain the same
- Weapon Advisory Committees will move focus on cadet assignments
- Weapon Advisory Committees will incorporate all Master List referees who are able to serve IA&D in the season
- An FIE committee will be created to prioritize referees for Junior assignments
- The IWAS committee will continue to prioritize referees for senior assignments
- Additional roles will cover referee usage & performance analysis, a mentor group,

Status: Ongoing Projects

Project/Issue

- FIE license inactivations
- Need for better communication and training for international referee cadre

Current and Next Steps

- Procedure to reactivate is now clear: candidates submitted with FIE Exam candidates to be observed. This uses a testing spot.
- Referees must work in each weapon at least every four years to maintain active status.
- All U.S. FIE-licensed referees will be informed of the current process at the beginning of each season.
- Facebook group has been created to aid in quick communication and create a better community, especially between weapons
- Closed meetings at NACs for the IA&D to understand policies and ask questions in a comfortable environment.
- Next Steps 1: More frequent meetings and expand topics to the IA&D group
- Next Steps 2: Skills lectures/labs at NACs and Summer Nationals geared to high-level referees but open to all

Status: Ongoing Projects

Project/Issue

- Referees' Commission is generally seen as inaccessible and more open communication is needed
- A pipeline is needed between Domestic Development, IA&D, and Arbitrage

Current Status and Next Steps

- Office hours are continuing to be successful. They are currently disseminated on Facebook on my personal page, fencing group pages, and the USA Fencing page.
- Current goal: 2 times per month; wider dissemination of information
- Next Steps: Get others from the RC on board to assist. A more diverse group will give better options to our referees and help distribute some of the workload.
- There should be a clear understanding by referees as to how the three interact
- Next steps 1: Establish the "FIE Committee" for next season to formalize junior event referee selection leading to seniors
- Next Steps 2: Begin a DD to IA&D path

Status: Goals for Remainder of 2018-2019 Season

Action Item	Status/Next Steps	Anticipated Timeline
1. Finalize completed assignments, summarize, and distribute	1. After season is complete, collect and compile data and distribute	1. Distribution to RC and Arbitrage by beginning of SNs
2. Post-Mortem for 2017-2018 Assignments	2. In progress: meetings set for Zonals, SNs, World Championships	2. Feedback compiled by August 1 st
3. Set Committees for both Assignments and Development for each weapon, IWAS, and FIE for 2019-2020 season	3. Assess needs of IA&D and the interest/availability of people willing to serve	3. Committees to be set by June 27 th
4. Push data-identified referees to determine development path and give feedback	4. Work with Domestic Assignments and Domestic Development to appropriately assign and be observed.	4. Assignments: Summer Nationals Feedback compiled and given to referees: July 30 th
5. Produce documents for international assignments requirements & assignment procedure for 2019-2020	5. Gather feedback on current drafts for assignment procedure and work requirements	5. Documents produced by July 1 st

3 month Calendar

JUNE 2019

June 3rd: Office Hours 12-3pm PDT

June 27th: FIE candidates announced for the Fall 2019 exam

At least one additional office hours session preceding Summer Nationals

In Process:

- Referee Summary Reports for end-of-season
- SN clinic curriculum and resource planning
- Develop referee contracts

JULY 2019

July 3rd-7th at Summer Nationals:

- IA&D overview clinic (open)
- IA&D group pre-season meeting (closed)
- Skills Lab: How to be a better video referee (open)
- Skills Lab: Penalties & Side Judging

July 8th: Committees finalized

July 12th: Advisory Committee discussions begin

At least one office hours session following Summer Nationals

AUGUST 2019

- Aug 1st: Committee recommendations finalized
- Aug 9th: Assignment availability requests and 2019-2020 IA&D referee contracts sent out
- Aug 20th: Signed contracts for 2019-2020 from referees due
- Aug 23rd: Assignments for 2019-2020 published
- Aug 31st: Referee Summary Reports for all developing cadet- and junior-event referees with 2019-2020 goals distributed

Office Hours sessions to be scheduled, with at least one the week before the RC meeting and one after

Summary of DAC activities for the 2018-2019 Season, to date:

- Hire referees for each NAC/JO/SN each season
 - Current method is to have one DAC associate member hire for one tournament per season.

The DAC completed hiring for all six NAC's and JO's with the hiring for Summer Nationals complete or nearly so. Hiring targets were met for all of the events with the exception of the March NAC, which is notoriously difficult to hire for given the competition from other events.

- Determine Referee Coordinator for each national tournament.

Referee Coordinators were selected for each NAC, JO's and Summer Nationals.

- Determine Assigners for each national tournament.

Assigners were determined for all of the NAC's JO's and Summer Nationals.

- Select a core group of referees who will assign for all four days at each tournament, one for each weapon.
 - For the more complex tournaments, two assigners per weapon is recommended.
- Select additional, one-day, assigners for each tournament from the cadre hired for that event.
- Review potential schedule in collaboration with Tournament Committee Chair (Brandon Rochelle) and Dan Berke.
 - Dan creates the initial schedule.
 - Review schedule with an eye towards referee usage.
 - Saber shouldn't use more than 18-20 referees at a time.
 - Saber shouldn't be one of the late finishing events on the last day.
 - Should try to avoid all strips used by ROW events.
 - Review is done right after regular entry deadline for tournament.

Proposed schedules were reviewed and suggestions made for each Event. Further review of the proposed Check-in Times was made after the close of registration for each event.

- Select DAC associate members.

DAC members were selected prior to the start of the season, as planned.

- Create/maintain Availability Forms for each national tournament.
 - Done on EmailMeForms website; user ID FOCDC.

Availability Forms were created for all of the Events and the Overall Season.

- Maintain list of active referees by season.
- Maintain referee email address list.
 - Used by DAC associate members when hiring for national tournaments.

The Referee Email List is maintained on an on-going basis.

- Review hire lists for completeness. (These tasks are usually performed by DAC hiring member, but VC should check that they are done.)
 - Need to have correct arrival/departure dates (for hotel stays)
 - Need to have correct flight departure time (for tournament management)
 - Need to make sure referees have current SafeSport eligibility.
 - Need completed minor referee authorization forms.
- Add referee usage data to season usage (viewable on RC website) after tournament is finished.
- Track referee tournament work day length.
- Create usage summary report, for review by entire RC when determining ratings increases at August RC meeting.
 - Based on assigners' determination of ratings at each tournament.
 - Include International usage.

Hiring lists for each Event were reviewed prior to the event to assure proper hiring and information tabulation.

The Referee Usage for each event has been tabulated along with the summary of referee work day lengths.

The Usage Summary Report will be completed after Summer Nationals for use by the RC at the summer meeting.

Appendix D

Tournament Committee Summary of Activity – Spring 2019

Members:

Brandon Rochelle, Chair
David Blake
Jason Chang
Anne Crocket, RC Liaison
Meredith Delgado
Maggie Dull
Nikki Franke
Alan Geller
Andrey Geva
Cody Mattern
Jeff Salmon, Board Liaison
Laurie Schiller
Brenda Waddoups
Staff Liaison: Christine Simmons

Activity summary:

The committee had no standing meetings scheduled between our last board report in February 2019, but did have online exchanges summarized below:

Two day epee format classification event

The committee reviewed format options for Division I Epee. A one day format with two rounds of pools was decided upon after recommendations from the epee national coaches, and athlete and sports performance representatives. Details of the format have been published by the national office, and will be included in the athlete packets for next season's Division I events in October, December, and January.

Event Combinations for April

The tournament committee made a recommendation to the national office to maintain Division III at the April NAC for the coming season, and until such time that the regional tournament framework has appropriate support at the Division III level.

Respectfully submitted,

Brandon Rochelle
Tournament Committee Chair

Appendix E

SEMI COMMITTEE REPORT

Technology:

To enable regional event organizers to more easily identify qualified armorers to lead and staff their events, US SEMI has decided to create a website that will allow organizers to query the database of qualified armorers. The website will also assist US SEMI in managing its own resources. We have identified skilled volunteers to create this database, and development has begun. We expect it to be in a test phase this fall, and in production before the end of the year. The cost to develop it will be zero. We will have modest (less than \$100/yr. operating costs.

We are rewriting the StripCall application that is used by refs to communicate with armory staff. The main impetus for the rewrite is to create an actual app for armorers, and optionally refs, which will substantially improve the timely reception of messages, improve the communications with refs and record more data to improve our efforts to accurately document equipment failures. This effort is also using volunteer labor. We had hoped to test it at Summer Nationals, but it seems highly unlikely that will happen. The current application is functional, so we don't think this is a problem. There is no additional development cost. We currently have about \$200 per year operating cost for StripCall, and expect that to decrease as we replace the text message mechanism with an app.

We are also creating an application to track fencer's equipment for World Championships. This allows us to identify how many items each fencer submits, records failures and produces reports for us, the FIE and the teams. Also being written by skilled volunteers, development has begun, and we anticipate being able to test the application at both the Foil World Cup and the Sabre Gran Prix prior to using it at Cadet/Junior Worlds. The budget for the tablets, server, printers and network for this has been given to the National Office for the budget. The equipment cost is about the same even if we were to use one of the existing inventory tracking systems that have been used in prior World Championships and we would avoid the licensing costs for those packages.

Each of these projects has separate volunteers but all are being managed by Brian Rosen for US SEMI.

Logistics:

Our inventory of shipping crates for tournament equipment is aging and showing the results of accumulating damage. We strongly recommend that funds be allocated for the purchase of some few replacement shipping crates and the refurbishment of others. An initial purchase of four or five new containers will allow us to transfer equipment from the worst of our current inventory and send the damaged crates out for repair. A gradual process of refurbishment should be initiated; it will spread the cost over time and ensure that our equipment will be protected during transit.

Lids for the containers take the brunt of damage in shipping and handling. Most have suffered damage, and several have been completely broken. We recommend that funds be allocated for the purchase of replacement lids. At Summer Nationals we will evaluate the existing lids and give the office staff our estimate of the number and sizes of the lids needed.

The lighting equipment for the raised final strip has been kept in their original wooden shipping crates. Those crates were only meant as single use items and their continuing use is damaging the electronics.

Due to their size they require special handling to get into the trailers which consistently complicates and delays the load out from our events. It is our understanding that the entire finals system is due to be replaced. Once the new equipment arrives, we should immediately measure it and order the appropriate crates. Cost will be determined by the number and size required but could be in the range of 2 to 4 thousand dollars.

Training:

We continue to train and vet new armorer candidates at all NAC events. Our current process involves candidates volunteering for at least one event and acting as trainee at another. With a positive evaluation from the supervising Head Tech the successful candidate is then placed on our "Hire List"

We plan on posting the list online as soon as website development allows. This database should help local and regional event planners when making staffing decisions for their events.

We have scheduled the first of projected annual meetings with Staff and a core group of current armorers at the beginning of Summer Nationals to discuss annual initiatives and growth development whose end result and a success metric would conclude with an Armory Training Manual (not a pedagogic version regarding "How to be an armorer" but one that describes how to train up the grassroots level of armorers and how often then get contacted as well as how many NACs they need to trainee at, etc.) and an annual plan with written initiatives that the SEMI can continuously discuss progress checks.

Work on a Training Manual is underway with the help of volunteers and we anticipate offering training clinics like those held for referees at some point this season. We are also developing an Operations Manual covering National, Regional and Local events to insure consistency in sanctioned events nationwide.

Staffing:

The armorers tasked with Junior Worlds have expressed extreme concern over the staffing levels authorized by the Office for this event. Currently we are authorized for 8 armorers and 1 manager for control and call room. This level of staffing with its attendant budget was approved August of 2017 without input from the SEMI. We believe that this number of armorers for a World Championship is wholly inadequate.

The following is Ted Li's proposal:

2020 Cadet/Junior World Championship Control and Call Room Structure Ted Li

The following proposed structure for the 2020 World Championship Control and Call Room is based upon the experiences of a number of international armorers, and is designed for maximum efficiency.

Personnel

As the Cadet/Junior World Championships are equivalent to the Summer Nationals, two

crews should be assigned, with a larger number of qualified armorers working the first half. The larger number is required as the set-up and the initial Controle will be happening simultaneously.

The structure of the Armory/Controle group should be as follows:

1. Overall Head Armorer whose job is to oversee all aspects of the Controle, the Call Room, and the competition and training areas, and acting as a liaison to the DT, the LOC, and the FIE.
2. 3 x Section Heads whose jobs are to oversee the proper functioning of the Controle, the Call Room, and the competition and training areas, according to the FIE rules.
3. 12 x Controle Team Leaders whose jobs are to oversee four (4) inspection teams in the Controle, who are doing the actual inspection of the fencers' equipment according to the FIE rules. They should be assisted by no more than 2 volunteers per team (a total of 8 trained volunteers on any given shift). Another possibility is to have 8 Controle Team Leaders and 12 trained volunteers.
4. Controle Room Statistician whose responsibility is the maintenance of up-to-date inventory records of equipment submitted for Controle. This person does not need to be an experienced armorer, but must be fluent in whatever inventorying system is to be used.

Responsibility of the Controle Head(s)

1. Overseeing the functioning of the Controle
2. Overseeing the collection of inventory data

Responsibility of the Call Room Head(s)

1. Overseeing the function of the Call Room armorers
2. Coordinating with the FIE delegates assigned to the Call Room
3. Coordinating with the Volunteer Coordinator in the Call Room.

Responsibility of the Floor Manager(s)

1. Overseeing the proper functioning of the scoring equipment and pistes in both the competition venue and the training venue.
2. Acting as the official adviser for equipment problems (both personal and tournament) encountered during the competition.
3. Overseeing the maintenance and repair of the tournament scoring equipment.
4. Overseeing the volunteer armorers during the team DE matches.
 1. Managing the distribution and collection of test boxes, weights, and shims.

Relationship between the Controle and the Call Room

As soon as the functioning of the Call Room is required for the individual DE, one (1) of the experienced armorers from each of the Controle teams will move to the Call Room, leaving two (2) experienced armorers to oversee the trained volunteers. Which Team Leader moves to the Call Room can be on a rotating basis.

The team events will require that two (2) of the experienced armorers from each Controle Team to move to the Call Room to provide maximum efficiency, leaving four (4) experienced Controle Team Leaders to oversee the continued functioning of each of the four Controle Teams.

Irene Edgerton, Head Tech for the event, is in agreement with Teds' proposal (extracted from her e-mail on 2/28):

“In terms of numbers, based on my personal experience both in front and behind the table of Controle, I firmly believe that Ted’s proposed plan for a total of 17 armory staff is not only extremely reasonable but essential. I do not believe that we can run a smooth event of that level with any fewer staff. I understand that for this event there is a high probability of consistent and dedicated volunteers, however there is a limit to what volunteers, even trained volunteers, can do without compromising the integrity of the process and the safety of the fencers.

The Junior Worlds Handbook indicates that there should be 4 teams in the Controle room for initial equipment check, it is my understanding that there will be 4 gabarits available which would indicate that we intend to follow that guideline. Based on the FIE SEMI guidelines for Weapon Controle, each team should consist of 7 individuals of whom 5 are armorers. They also call for 4 individuals to man the in-out reception tables, at least 1 of whom should be an armorer. They also recommend a minimum of 6-8 armorers in the Call Room, though those armorers can be shifted from the Controle lines with the understanding that the Controle lines will be slowed down as a result. There is also a requirement in the Handbook requiring 2 armorers on the floor at all times to handle strip calls and repairs. If you include the overall head-tech these guidelines call for a minimum of 23 actual armorers.

However, in my opinion the US has a great number of extremely competent armorers and I believe that we are fully capable of doing this event well with the 17 that Ted has proposed. Any less than that and I feel that, regardless of the number of volunteers, we would be hamstrung to a point being forced to compromise the intent of confiscation control and potentially to compromise the safety of the fencers, which I am sure that none of us ever want to see happen.

An additional note regarding the Call Room, where I have the most personal experience, I would like to clarify that at least 5 armorers are need in the call room (for individual events, more for team). No matter how many volunteers are there to assist, there needs to be at least one armorer per station working/managing inspection of the equipment, and 1 person acting as the overall manager to make sure that the right equipment is going into the bags and out to the right strips at the right time. Atilio may be there as the DT manager but he will have his hands full herding the fencers and will not have time to also manage the flow of equipment. It is standard in my experience to have a DT manager and an armory manager working in conjunction with each other each in their respective area.

I would like to note that comparing a World Championship to a NAC is like comparing apples and oranges. The requirements of the two events are drastically different. No NAC has ever required full confiscation control or call room. Nor have we done a full confiscation control or strict call room for any of the recent domestically hosted international events. At Worlds the number of strips is not a complete indicator of work load. And the reduced number of entries is in part what will allow us to properly run this event with only the needed 17 armorers.

One of the ways that we are hoping to reduce costs is by asking in the survey how many of the interested armorers can work the entire event, rather than splitting into a first and second half crew. This is physically and mentally exhausting and considering the average age of the armory staff, this is not a long term sustainable solution, but it may help at least for this event.”

As you can see there is a considerable difference between the budgeted staffing level and a level more in keeping with FIE guidelines and the opinion of the technical staff. We ask that an effort be made to find the funding needed to bring in additional trained armorers for this important event.

MODIFICATIONS TO THE TECHNICAL RULES

t.1 These Rules are obligatory **without modification** for the 'Official Competitions of the FIE', viz.:

- The World Championships, in all categories.
 - The fencing events at the Olympic Games
 - All World Cup competitions.
 - The Zonal Championships.
 - The Satellite competitions
-

COMPETITIONS ASSAULTS AND BOUTS

t.2

~~A friendly combat between two fencers is called an **assault**. When the score of such an assault is kept to determine a result it is called a **bout**.~~

Match

t.3

~~The aggregate of the bouts fought between the fencers of two different **teams** is called a **match**.~~

Competition

t.4

~~1. — A **competition** is the **aggregate** of the bouts (individual competitions) or of the matches (team competitions) required to determine the winner of the event.~~

2. ~~Competitions are distinguished by weapons, by the competitors' sex, by their age and by the fact that they are for individuals or for teams.~~

Tournament

t.5

~~"Tournament" is the name given to a number of competitions, individual and team, held at the same place, at the same period and under the same aegis.~~

Championship

t.6

~~A *championship* is the name given to a competition held to determine the best fencer or the best team at each weapon for a federation, for a specific region or for the world and for a specific period of time.~~

t.21

- 1 With all three weapons, **defence defensive actions** must be effected exclusively ~~with the guard and the blade used either separately or together.~~ **with the weapon.**
-

Coming on guard and placing of the fencers

t.22

- 1 The fencer ~~whose number is called first~~ should place himself on the **right** of the Referee, except in the case of a bout between a right- and a left-hander, if the left-hander is called first.
- 2 The team which has the greater number of right-handed fencers should be placed on the referee's right. If both teams have the same number of right- and left-handed fencers, the team called first should be placed on the referee's right.
- 2 **3** The Referee places each of the two competitors in such a way that the front foot of each is ~~2 meters from the centre line of the piste (that is, immediately~~ **immediately** behind the 'on-guard' lines).
- 3 **4** Competitors are always put on guard, whether at the beginning of the bout or subsequently, **in the centre of the width of the piste.**

- 4 **5** When placed on guard during the bout, the distance between the two competitors must be such that, in the position 'point in line', **the points of the two blades cannot make contact.**
- 5 **6** After the scoring of a valid hit the competitors are put on guard **in the middle** of the piste.
- 6- **7** If no hit is awarded they are replaced in the position which they occupied when the bout was interrupted.
-

t.33

4 If **one of the competitors** leaves the piste with **both feet**, only a hit made by the fencer who remains on the piste with at least one foot, **and at épée only**, can be counted valid, even in the case of a double hit. **For foil and sabre the convention must be applied.**

t.37

- 1 Duration of the bout is held to mean the **effective duration**, that is the total of the intervals of time between the orders 'Play!' and 'Halt!'.
- 2 The duration of the bout is **controlled** by the Referee or by a time-keeper. For the finals of all official competitions, as well as for all bouts for which a chronometer is visible to the spectators, the chronometer must be so placed that it is visible to the two fencers on the piste and to the Referee.
- 3- **The same bout or relay cannot be restarted after the bout or relay is finished, in accordance with t.122, even if a formal mistake has been made.**
-

t.38.2

Three minutes of effective fencing time have passed. ~~(There is no warning for the last minute.)~~

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**.

t.44

- 1 At the expiry of the regulation fencing time, ~~if the clock is linked to the scoring apparatus (obligatory standard for finals of official FIE competitions), it~~ must set off automatically a loud audible signal, and automatically cut off the scoring apparatus, without cancelling hits registered before the disconnection. The bout stops with the audible signal.
-

t.50

- 1 For the rounds of pools and the direct elimination table, **the Refereeing Delegates** select the referees by drawing lots.
- 2 **For the pools**, the referee must be of a different nationality from that any of the fencers in the pool.
- 3 For the **direct elimination tables at each weapon**, the Refereeing Delegates establish, among the referees present, a list of the best referees at each weapon (according to the grades obtained during the season).
For each quarter of the table, 4 referees are assigned by drawing lots from among at least of 4 to 5 referees, to referee the bouts in the order of the table. They must be of a different nationality from that of any of the fencers participating in that quarter of the table. **Then, the video consultants will be assigned by drawing lots among a list of at least 4 to 5 referees.**
~~As the table progresses, the referees will be switched around in a sequence established beforehand.~~

Lots are drawn at each stage of the table.

t.55

- 1 The Referee will **disregard** hits which are registered as a result of actions:
 - started before the word 'Play!' or after the word 'Halt!' (cf. t.23.1/3);
 - which are made on any object other than the opponent or his equipment.
 - 2 **At foil, hits made other than on the opponent or his equipment do not stop the fencing phrase and do not annul subsequent hits.**
 - 2 3 A competitor who, **intentionally**, causes the apparatus to register a hit by placing his point on the ground or on any surface other than **that of his opponent** will be penalised as specified in Articles **t.158-162, t.165, t.170.**
-

t.68

- 1 He will in any case, before each bout, ensure that the **guarantee label** is present on the clothing, the blade and the mask of each fencer, and that the **insulation of the wires** inside the guard and the **pressure of the spring** in the point of foils and epees conforms with the Rules. Checking the insulation of the wires and the pressure of the spring will be repeated each time a weapon is changed. ~~At all three weapons, he will~~

~~check that the fencer is not equipped with **electronic communication equipment** which would allow a person off the piste to communicate with the fencer during the bout.~~

2 He makes use of a weight to check the weapon, cf. **m.11.3, m.19.3, m.42.2.d.**

3 At epee he will check **the total travel and the residual travel** of the *pointe d'arrêt*:

- the **total travel** by inserting a gauge measuring 1.5 mm between the barrel of the *pointe d'arrêt* and the tip. ~~This gauge, provided by the Organising Committee, may have a tolerance of ± 0.05 mm, i.e. from 1.45 mm to 1.55 mm.~~

- the **residual travel** by inserting a gauge measuring 0.5 mm between the barrel of the *pointe d'arrêt* and the tip. The apparatus should not register when the point is depressed. ~~This gauge, provided by the Organising Committee, may have a tolerance of ± 0.05 mm, i.e. from 0.45 mm to 0.55 mm cf. m.19.4.a, b, m.42.e~~

t.70

In whatever circumstances a fencer on the piste is found to be in possession of equipment which is **non-regulation or defective** (cf.m.8, m.9, m.12, m.13, m.16, m.17, m.23), ~~this equipment will be immediately confiscated and submitted~~ the referee confiscates the equipment and submits it to the experts on duty for examination. The equipment in question will only be returned to the owner after the measures necessitated by this examination have been completed and, if appropriate, after the payment of any expenses for repairs. The equipment must be rechecked before it is used again.

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;

the Referee will apply the penalties stipulated in Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170. ~~(First Group).~~

t.74

For all official FIE competitions, every fencer must appear on the piste with clothing conforming to the rules as follows:

1. Name and nationality, in accordance with the rules, on the back of the jacket.
(Application: all official FIE competitions, at all stages of the competitions.)
- 2 Wearing his national uniform and **logo** (cf. m.25.3). ~~Application as follows:~~
 - a) ~~Senior, Junior and Cadet World Championships, all bouts, whether in a pool, in the direct elimination and during a team match;~~
 - b) ~~Individual: Senior World Cup competitions and Senior Zonal Championships, all bouts, whether in a pool or in the direct elimination;~~
 - e) ~~Teams: Senior World Cup competitions and Senior Zonal Championships, all bouts in every match.~~

In case of violation of this rule, the **Referee shall will** eliminate the fencer at fault **from the event in question.**

- ~~For the competitions mentioned in items a) and c) above, The Referee shall **eliminate** the fencer at fault, and he will not be allowed to participate further in the event.~~
- ~~For the competitions mentioned in item b) above, the Referee shall penalise the fencer at fault with a Red Card (t.158-162, t.166, t.170, Second Group). The fencer at fault shall however be **allowed to remain** on the piste and fence the bout concerned.~~

t.75

1. If the conductive jacket does not conform to the rules, the fencer must put on a spare jacket that does conform to the rules. If this jacket does not have his name and nationality on the back, the fencer has until the next stage of the competition (from the pools to the table of 64, the table of 32, etc.) to get his name and nationality printed on it.

If this is not done and except in cases of 'force majeure' the referee will eliminate the fencer ~~and he cannot continue to participate in the competition~~ **from the event in question.**

2. If an item of a fencer's clothing bearing the name and nationality or the national logo becomes dangerous (e.g. tear, burst seam), the fencer must put on spare clothing, which conforms to the rules. If this clothing **does not conform to the regulations** or does not bear the name and nationality or the national logo, the fencer has until the next stage of the competition; ~~as detailed in the preceding article~~, to get them printed on it. If this is not done and except in cases of force majeure, ~~the referee will eliminate the fencer~~. **The sanctions specified in t.74 apply.**

t.76

- 1 The foil is a **thrusting** weapon only. Offensive actions with this weapon are made therefore ~~with the point and with the point only~~ **only with the point.**
-

t.77

- 2 1. 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 (see Figure 4).**
 - 1 **2.** At foil, only hits which arrive **on the valid target** are counted ~~as valid~~.
-

t.78

A hit which is made on a part of the body other than the target (whether directly or as a result of a parry) **or which arrives following a fencing fault or after going over the lateral boundary of the piste with both feet**, is not counted as a valid hit, but stops the fencing phrase and annuls any subsequent hit. (cf **t.79**).

t.84

To judge **the priority of an attack** when analyzing the fencing phrase, it should be noted that:

- 4 ~~If the attack is initiated when the opponent is not 'point in line' (cf. t.15), it may be~~

~~executed either with a direct thrust, or by a disengage, or by a cut-over, or may even be preceded by a beat or successful feints obliging the opponent to parry.~~

- 2 1 If the attack is initiated **when the opponent is 'point in line'** (cf. t.15), the attacker must, first, deflect the opponent's blade. Referees must ensure that a mere contact of the blades is not considered as sufficient to deflect the opponent's blade (cf. t.89.5.a).
 - 3 2 If the attacker, when attempting to deflect the opponent's blade, fails to find it (**dérobement**), the right of attack passes to the opponent.
 - 4 3 **Continuous steps forward, with the legs crossing one another**, constitute a preparation and on this preparation any simple attack has priority.
-

t.89

- 6 **The Referee must replace the competitors on guard** each time that there is a double hit and he is unable to judge clearly on which side the fault lies.
~~One of the most difficult cases to judge arises when a stop hit is made and there is doubt as to whether it was made sufficiently in time in relation to the final movement of a compound attack. Generally, in such cases, the double hit occurs through the fault of both fencers concerned, which justifies the Referee replacing them on guard. (The fault of the attacker consists of indecision, slowness of execution or the making of feints which are not sufficiently effective. The fault of the defender lies in delay or slowness in making the stop hit.)~~
-

t.90

- 1 The epee is a **thrusting weapon** only. Attacks with this weapon are therefore made ~~with the point, and with the point only~~ **only with the point**.
-

t.98

1. A hit which arrives **on a non-valid part of the target** is not counted as a hit; it **is not registered by the apparatus**, it does not stop the fencing phrase and does not annul any subsequent hits. **However, a hit which arrives following a fencing fault or after going over the lateral boundary of the piste with both feet is not counted as a valid hit, but it stops the fencing phrase and therefore annuls any subsequent hit.**

t.106

- 4 **The fencer who attacks is alone counted as hit:**

- a) If he initiated his attack when **his opponent had his point 'in line'** (cf. t.15), without deflecting the opponent's weapon. Referees must ensure that a mere contact of the blades is not considered as sufficient to deflect the opponent's blade.
 - b) If he attempts to find the blade, does not succeed (because of a **derobement**) and continues the attack.
 - c) If, during a compound attack, he allows his opponent to **find the blade**, and continues the attack while his opponent ripostes immediately.
 - d) If, during a compound attack, he **bends his arm** or makes a **momentary pause**, during which time the opponent makes a stop hit or an attack while the attacker continues his own attack.
 - e) If, during a compound attack, he is **stop-hit** one period of fencing time (*temps d'escrime*) before he makes his final movement.
 - f) If he makes a hit by a *remise*, *redoublement* or reprise following a **parry by his opponent** which has been followed by a riposte which is immediate, simple and executed in one period of fencing time without withdrawing the arm.
- 5 When there is a double hit, and if the Referee is unable clearly to judge from which side the fault has come, he must **replace the competitors on guard**.

~~One of the most difficult cases to judge arises when a stop hit is made and there is doubt as to whether it was made sufficiently in time in relation to the final movement of a compound attack. Generally, in such cases, the double hit occurs through the fault of both fencers concerned, which justifies the Referee replacing them on guard. (The fault of the attacker consists of indecision, slowness of execution or the making of feints which are not sufficiently effective. The fault of the defender lies in delay or slowness in making the stop hit.)~~

t.118

Before the start of the pool, the team match or the bouts of direct elimination (individual or team):

- 1 When a fencer or complete team **do not present themselves** to the Referee **at his first call**, ten minutes before the time indicated to come onto the piste for the start of the pool or team match, or the start of the bouts of direct elimination (cf. Article t.66.1), the fencer or team concerned will be **eliminated**.
- 2 **A team** is considered complete when at least three fencers are present.
- 3 ~~In a team match~~ Only those members of the team (the fencers, the team captain and one trainer — cf. Article t.132.1) who are **present at the Referee's first call**, ten minutes before the time indicated for the start of the match, may take part in ~~the a team~~ match.

t.126

~~Under no circumstances may fencers remove clothing on the piste, even to change their bodywire (cf t.158-162, t.165, t.170).~~

t.135

Jurisdictional bodies

- the Referee (cf. t.137);
 - the Refereeing Commission delegate(s);
 - the Directoire Technique (cf. t.139, o.15 to o.22);
 - the Supervisor;
 - ~~- the Refereeing Commission delegate(s), or the Supervisor if there is no delegate;~~
 - the Executive Committee of the IOC at the Olympic Games (cf.t.142);
 - the Bureau of the FIE (cf. t.143.1/4, o.12);
 - the Executive Committee of the FIE (cf. t.143.5);
 - the Disciplinary Commission of the FIE and its Tribunal;
 - the Court of Arbitration for Sport and the Sports Arbitration Tribunal.
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t.146

~~If a competitor crosses one of the lateral boundaries of the piste with one or both feet, he must step back one metre from the point where he left the piste; and if he goes off the piste during an attack he must return to the position he occupied when he started his attack and then step back a further metre.~~

t.153

- 1 **Disqualification** of a competitor ~~(for example, because he does not conform to the rules regarding age, qualification, etc. required for the competition)~~ does not necessarily incur his (temporary) suspension or permanent suspension, if he has acted in good faith; a request for supplementary penalties for fraudulent intention may, however, be made against the competitor.
- 2 A team **which has included a competitor who is disqualified** necessarily incurs the penalty of that member and is also disqualified.
- 3 The consequences of disqualification are the same as those for exclusion from the competition (see Article t.149).

MODIFICATIONS TO THE PUBLICITY CODE

RULES FOR COMPETITIONS APPENDIX — FENCERS' PUBLICITY CODE

p.12. Advertising which is worn or carried

1. Definition

- a) Advertising worn or carried refers to any name or badge other than the mark of the manufacturer or seller of the equipment in question (cf. p.9) which appears on a fencer's main or ancillary equipment.
- b) A mark which is larger than the sizes which are usual or laid down above (cf. p.10) constitutes advertising.
- c) All advertisements contrary to the law of the country in which the competition is taking place are forbidden.

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 ~~maximum 125 cm² in size,~~ may be fixed:
 - at the top of the sleeve of the non-sword arm of the fencing jacket, **a maximum of 3 logos, with a maximum area of 85 cm² each; ~~on the side of the breeches (left or right) or~~**
 - 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.~~At sabre a logo may not be worn on the sleeve.~~

The sponsor's logo may be displayed on each side of the mask. Maximum size: 100 cm² on each side of the mask.

- b) A fencer may not display more than **five ten** such logos. ~~The total surface area of all these logos added together must not exceed 500 cm².~~