



Proposals for the 2019 Congress
Modifications of the Rules

P. 1

Article: o.5

Proposal from: Rules Commission

Motivation: To establish a precise set of terms in order to avoid confusion.

Proposal:

Assault and bout

o.5 A **friendly combat** between two fencers is called an **assault**.

When the score of such an assault is kept to determine a result [in an individual competition](#), it is called a **bout**.

[The three sections of a direct elimination bout are called 'periods'](#).

[In a match \(cf o.6\) between teams it is called a relay.](#)

Rules Commission: In favour with the following amendment:

[In a match \(cf o.6\) between teams # each of the nine bouts is called a 'relay'.](#)

Refereeing Commission: In favour.

Executive Committee: In favour of the proposal as modified by the Rules Commission.

Article: o.6

Proposal from: Rules Commission

Motivation: To establish a precise set of terms in order to avoid confusion.

P. 2

Proposal:

Match

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

Rules Commission: In favour.

Refereeing Commission: In favour.

Executive Committee: In favour.

Article: t.18.1

Proposal from: SEMI Commission

P. 3

Motivation:

1- To save the space. According to the existing rule, there should be a 5 meter distance between each piste. However presently, due to the limited space available at the venues, only in a few competitions is this rule adhered to.

2- To reduce the cost of the pistes by 20 to 25 percent. Fixing the width of the pistes at 1.5 meters will respectively cut the prices of the pistes.

3- Presently, some organizers use pistes with different widths in the same competition. This proposal ensures that fencers will fence in uniformly sized pistes which in turn will maximize their coordination and efficiency

Proposal:

t.18.1

The piste is ~~from~~ 1.50 meters ~~to 2 meters~~ wide.

(This rule must be applied also to t.19 Fig.1 and Fig.2)

SEMI Commission: In favour.

Rules Commission: In favour.

Refereeing Commission: Not in favour.

Executive Committee: In favour of the following text:

The combat area of the piste is ~~from~~ 1.50 meters ~~to 2 meters~~ wide.

Application: starting from 1st January 2021.

Article: t.18.3

Proposal from: SEMI Commission

P. 4

Motivation: At the present the Refereeing commission have decided that, if at any competition the organizers use two kinds of pistes (with and without safety border) for poules & DE, the safety borders are a part of the pistes. So, in this case again we will have the pistes with different widths.

Proposal:

Amended text:

t.18.3

The conductive safety borders, indicated in Fig. 1, the diagram of the pistes for poules, DE, ~~and~~ finals and semi-finals, including the pistes already having safety borders, do not form part of the piste.

SEMI Commission: In favour.

Rules Commission: In favour.

Refereeing Commission: Not in favour.

Executive Committee: In favour.

Article: t.45

P. 5

Proposal from: Sam Cheris (MH)

Motivation: to clear ambiguity of medical injury, cramp, and other acute medical incident.

Request that Rules Commission and Executive Committee declare that this proposal be declared urgent so that confusion among athletes, referees and coaches can have clarity as to how to various medical ailments will be handled and to assure consistency of application of the rule regarding injury cramp or other acute medical incidents on the strip.

Proposal:

Injuries, withdrawal of a competitor
Injury or cramp, withdrawal of a competitor
t.45

1 For an **athletic injury or cramp or other acute medical incident** which occurs in the course of a bout and which is properly attested by the delegate of the FIE Medical Commission or, in his absence, by the doctor on duty, the Referee will allow a break in the fight lasting no longer than 5 minutes. This break should be timed from the point when the delegate of the F I E Medical commission or, in his absence, the doctor gave his opinion and be strictly reserved for the requisite treatment. If the delegate of the FIE Medical Commission or, in his absence, the doctor on duty considers, before or at the end of the 5 minute break, that the **fencer is incapable of continuing** the fight, he will decide that the fencer should retire (individual events) and/or be replaced, if possible (team events) (cf. o.99.6.a/b).

1.1 Definition of ‘cramp’ – exercise associated muscle cramping (EAMC) “is a painful and sustained muscle(s) contraction that is physically palpable and limits joint range of motion”. EAMC criteria for in competition evaluation by FIE doctor or doctor on duty include:

1.1.1 Palpation of a sustained muscle contraction.

1.1.2 Confirm loss of motion of the associated joints above and/or below the affected area.

1.1.3 If the EAMC is not present upon examination the doctor on duty can ask the athlete to contract the muscle group to try and elicit a muscle cramp.

2 Definition of 'other acute medical incident' – acute medical incident can include but not limited to illness/vomiting, debris within the eye, bleeding, and/or pre-existing condition which may include asthma or diabetes mellitus.

2.1.1 Vomiting/illness – in the event of **vomiting or preminent vomiting** during a bout the athlete is given time to purge and clean prior to the determination of continuing by the doctor on duty. The doctor on duty will give the athlete the minimum amount of time to achieve their readiness or a maximum time limit for medical timeout of 5 minutes.

2.1.2 Bleeding – in the event of **bleeding** during a bout the doctor on duty has a maximum time limit of 5 minutes to control the bleeding.

2.1.3 Asthma – Athletes are required to manage their pre-existing medical condition to the best of their ability, however, in the event of an **acute asthma attack** the athlete will be given a medical timeout for a maximum time limit of 5 minutes. The doctor on duty will determine if this is a true acute asthma attack and allow for a brief time for medication which may include the use of an inhaler and/or nebulizer if the athlete presents with the following signs and symptoms below. If the athlete **does not** present with signs and symptoms of an acute asthma attack but stresses that an asthma attack is preminent the athlete is given the opportunity to take medication for a brief period and then resume the bout. If the doctor on duty is called over to determine a medical timeout is needed it will be recorded as a medical timeout, if granted the use of medication.

Signs and symptoms of an acute asthma attack:

2.1.3.1 Moderate to severe difficulty breathing

2.1.3.2 Moderate to severe wheezing both in and out

2.1.3.3 Unable to speak or significant inability to speak

2.1.3.4 Coughing that is difficult to stop or control

2.1.3.5 Presentation of anxiety or panic

2.1.3.6 Pale face

2.1.4 Diabetes – athlete is required to manage their pre-existing condition and no timeout is warranted unless the athlete is physically unable to continue in which they will be medically withdrawn.

2.1.5 Concussion – in the event of a head injury the doctor on duty must use the best standards of care and evaluation to determine if the athlete has sustained a potential concussion. Diagnosis of concussion may not exceed 5-minute medical time out.

All breaks for **athletic injury, cramp (EMAC), or an acute medical incident** must be noted on the score-sheet for the bout, the pool or the match.

~~2.~~ **3.** During **the remainder of the same day**, a fencer cannot be allowed a further break unless as a result of a different injury or cramp or acute medical incident.

~~3.~~ **4.** Should a fencer **demand a break** which is deemed by the delegate of the Medical Commission or, in his absence, by the doctor on duty to be **unjustified**, the Referee will penalise that fencer as specified in Articles t.158-162, t.166, t.170.

4. 5. In team events a fencer judged unable to continue the bout by the delegate of the FIE Medical Commission or, in his absence, by the doctor on duty may, nevertheless, on the advice of the same delegate of the FIE Medical Commission / doctor, fight in subsequent matches on the same day.

~~5.~~ **6.** The Directoire Technique may **modify the order of bouts** in a pool in order to ensure the efficient running of the competition (cf. o.71.1).

Rules Commission: In favour of amended text as follows:

Proposal:

Injuries, withdrawal of a competitor
Injury or cramp, withdrawal of a competitor
t.45

1 For a **sport injury or cramp or other acute medical incident** which occurs in the course of a bout and which is properly attested by the delegate of the FIE Medical Commission or, in his absence, by the doctor on duty, the Referee will allow a break in the fight lasting no longer than 5 minutes. This break should be timed from the point when the delegate of the F I E Medical commission or, in his absence, the doctor gave his opinion and be strictly reserved for the requisite treatment. If the delegate of the FIE Medical Commission or, in his absence, the doctor on duty considers, before or at the end of the 5 minute break, that the **fencer is incapable of continuing** the fight, he will decide that the fencer should retire (individual events) and/or be replaced, if possible (team events) (cf. o.99.6.a/b).

All breaks for **sport injury, cramp, or medical incident** must be noted on the score-sheet for the bout, the pool or the match.

2. During **the remainder of the same day**, a fencer cannot be allowed a further break unless as a result of a different injury or cramp or acute medical incident.

3. Should a fencer **demand a break** which is deemed by the delegate of the Medical Commission or, in his absence, by the doctor on duty to be **unjustified**, the Referee will penalise that fencer as specified in Articles t.158-162, t.166, t.170.

4. In team events a fencer judged unable to continue the bout by the delegate of the FIE Medical Commission or, in his absence, by the doctor on duty may, nevertheless, on the advice of the same delegate of the FIE Medical Commission / doctor, fight in subsequent matches on the same day.

5. The Directoire Technique may **modify the order of bouts** in a pool in order to ensure the efficient running of the competition (cf. o.71.1).

Medical Commission: **Not in favour**, primarily from a medical point of view.

The Medical Commission is of the opinion that “**Only the physician and/or medical provider on duty can determine the length of time of treatment required when a medical time-out is granted.**” The five minutes time out is a maximum allowed. Only the physician or the medical provider on duty decide the duration of allowed time-out up to 5 minutes max. His decision is final.

In favour of amended text as follows:

t.45

1 For a **sport trauma/injury or cramp or other acute medical incident** which occurs in the course of a bout and which is properly attested by the delegate of the FIE Medical Commission or, in his absence, by the doctor on duty the Referee will allow a break in the fight lasting no longer than 5 minutes. **Only the doctor and/or medical provider on duty can determine the length of time of treatment required when a medical time-out is granted.** This break should be timed from the point when the delegate of the F I E Medical commission or, in his absence, the doctor gave his opinion and be strictly reserved for the requisite treatment. If the delegate of the FIE Medical Commission or, in his absence, the doctor on duty considers, before or at the end of the 5 minute break, that the **fencer is incapable of continuing** the fight, he will decide that the fencer should retire (individual events) and/or be replaced, if possible (team events) (cf. o.99.6.a/b).

All breaks for **a sport trauma, injury cramp, or an acute medical incident** must be noted on the score-sheet for the bout, the pool or the match.

2. During **the remainder of the same day**, a fencer cannot be allowed a further break unless as a result of a different injury or cramp or acute medical incident.

3. Should a fencer **demand a break** which is deemed by the delegate of the Medical Commission or, in his absence, by the doctor on duty to be **unjustified**, the Referee will penalise that fencer as specified in Articles t.158-162, t.166, t.170.

4. **In team events** a fencer judged unable to continue the bout by the delegate of the FIE Medical Commission or, in his absence, by the doctor on duty may, nevertheless, on the advice of the same delegate of the FIE Medical Commission / doctor, fight in subsequent matches on the same day.

5. The Directoire Technique may modify the order of bouts in a pool in order to ensure the efficient running of the competition (cf. o.71.1).

Executive Committee: In favour of the text as modified by the Medical Commission, which includes the amendments proposed by the Rules Commission .

Article: t.50.3

Proposal from: Refereeing Commission

Motivation:

Proposal

t.50.3 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 **if possible**. **Then, the video consultants will be assigned by drawing lots among a list of at least 4 to 5 referees.**

Lots are drawn at each stage of the table and may be modified by the Refereeing Delegates in case of problem with the computer programme, mistakes done by the operator of the computer programme and in case of conflicts category A or B (FIE Statutes, CHAPTER XII - ETHICAL CODE).

Coaches Council: In favour.

Rules Commission: After discussion with the Refereeing Commission, the Rules Commission is in **favour** of the proposal with the following amendments:

t.50.3 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 **if possible**. **Then, the video consultants will be assigned by drawing lots among a list of at least 4 to 5 referees.**

Lots are drawn by the computer at each stage of the table but may be modified by the Refereeing Delegates in case of any problem with the computer programme, mistakes made by the operator of the computer programme and in case of conflicts between category A or B (FIE Statutes, CHAPTER XII - ETHICAL CODE). In any case where the computer draw is modified, it must be with the agreement of the Directoire Technique and signed by both the Refereeing Delegate and the President of the DT.

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Refereeing Commission: In favour of the modified proposal of the Rules Commission.

Executive Committee: In favour of the proposal as modified by the Rules commission with the addition of the following sentence:

At each referees' meeting before any competition, the referees will be asked to declare their potential conflicts of interest to the refereeing delegates or to the Presidents of the Directoire technique (for juniors). This information must be notified to the FIE by the refereeing delegates or the Directoire technique Presidents (for junior competitions).

Article: t.55

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Proposal from: Refereeing Commission

Motivation: Article t.55 is not written correctly and contrary to Article t.78, and is contrary to the proposal presented at the last Congresses. In the Rules, article t.55 is written differently from the proposal.

Proposal

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.

Except at foil, these non-valid hits stop the fencing phrase and annul any subsequent hits.

~~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.~~

Coaches Council: In favour.

Refereeing Commission: the commission proposes to remove the text added at the Congress 2018 for the reasons that t.55 is included in „Method of judging hits“ for all weapons and it is unnecessary to make some explanation for foil and also because with existing text t.55.2 contradicts t.78:

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.~~

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.**

Rules Commission: In favour of the proposal as modified by the Refereeing Commission.

Executive Committee: In favour of the proposal as modified by the Refereeing Commission and the Rules Commission, and therefore, to delete the sentence.

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Article: t.62

Proposal from: Athletes Commission

Motivation: In order to be in conformity with the IOC principles, the proposal intends to further improve transparency in arbitrage.

Proposal:

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 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, ~~except in the case specified in article t.62.2.~~

4 The video consultant may at any time request that the referee use the video-refereeing.

5 Once the referee, together with the video consultant, has analysed the action, whether it is:

- at the referees initiative
- at the request of the athlete
- in case of a tied score, before the decisive hit
- at the video consultants request

the decision given by the referee is final and no other review of the same action can be requested.

6. Once a video referee appeal occurs, then the opinion of the referee and also the opinion of the video consultant are recorded on the match sheet.

Coaches Council: In favour.

Rules Commission: In favour of the following amended text:

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 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, ~~except in the case specified in article t.62.2.~~

4 The video consultant may at any time request that the referee use the video-refereeing.

5 Once the referee, together with the video consultant, has analysed the action, whether it is:

- at the referees initiative
- at the request of the athlete
- in case of a tied score, before the decisive hit
- at the video consultants 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-consultant, the opinions of the referee and the video-consultant must be recorded on the match sheet.

Refereeing Commission: In favour with the request to use uniform format of the scoresheet with three options - video referee, main referee and final decision.

Executive Committee: In favour of the proposal as modified by the Rules Commission and of the request from the Refereeing Commission. The FIE will establish the sample score sheet form.

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Article: t.124

Proposal from: Executive Committee

Motivation: The precisions that were added through the FAQ and the explanatory document of February are marked in green and when there was a repetition the text deleted is marked in red.

Proposal:

Unwillingness to fight (non-combativity)

t.124

There is unwillingness to fight when there is one minute of fencing without a hit or without a hit scored off the target.

When one or both fencers make clear their **unwillingness to fight**, the Referee will immediately call 'Halt!'

1 Individual events – Direct elimination

P-Cards are awarded to each fencer separately, starting with a P-Yellow card, followed by two P-Red cards and finally by a P-Black card.

When, for the first time, there is one minute of unwillingness to fight, the Referee sanctions one or both fencers with a P-yellow card as follows:

- a) If the fencers are equal: the Referee sanctions both fencers with a P-yellow card.
- b) If the fencers are not equal: the Referee sanctions the fencer who has the lower score with a P- yellow card.

When, for the second and third times, there is one minute of unwillingness to fight, the Referee sanctions one or both fencers with a P-red card as follows:

- c) If the fencers are equal: the Referee sanctions both fencers with a P-red card.
- d) If the fencers are not equal: the Referee sanctions the fencer who has the lower score with a P- red card.

~~Following the attribution of any P-red card for unwillingness to fight, the fencers fence till the end of the period during which the P-red card was given.~~

When, ~~for~~ from the fourth time, there is unwillingness to fight, one or both fencers who have already received two P-red cards, receive a P-black card.

~~If the fencers are equal and receive P-black cards simultaneously, the fencer with the higher FIE ranking wins the bout.~~

e) If the fencers receive P-Black cards simultaneously and their scores are equal, the fencer with the higher initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking, wins the bout.

f) If the fencers receive P-Black cards simultaneously, and their scores are not equal, the fencer with the higher score wins the bout.

2 Team events

P-Yellow and P-Red cards are awarded to each team separately, starting with a P-Yellow card and followed by two P-Red cards. The P-Black card is awarded to the fencer.

When, for the first time, there is one minute of unwillingness to fight, the Referee sanctions one or both teams with a P-yellow card as follows:

- a) If the teams are equal: the Referee sanctions both teams with a P-yellow card.
- b) If the teams are not equal: the Referee sanctions the team with the lower score with a P-yellow card.

When, for the second and third times, there is one minute of unwillingness to fight, the Referee sanctions one or both teams with a P-red card as follows:

- c) If the teams are equal: the Referee sanctions both teams with a P-red card.
- d) If the teams are not equal: the Referee sanctions the team which has the lower score with a P-red card.

~~Following the attribution of any P-red card for unwillingness to fight, the fencers fence till the end of the relay during which the P-red card was given.~~

When, ~~for~~ from the fourth time, there is unwillingness to fight, one or both teams who have already received two P-red cards, receive a P-black card.

e) A team in which a fencer has received a P-black card may use their reserve fencer, if they have one and if the replacement has not already been made previously for tactical or medical reasons. If a replacement is made ~~after~~ following receipt of a P-black card, no further replacement may be made, even for medical reasons.

If no replacement can be made following receipt of a P-black card (because there is no reserve fencer or because the reserve fencer has already been used previously), the team sanctioned by a P-black card loses the match.

Following the replacement of a fencer after the awarding of a P-Black card, the relay in question continues. Any further occurrence of unwillingness to fight results in a further P-Black card and the team in question loses the match.

~~If the teams are equal and receive P-black cards simultaneously, the team with the higher FIE ranking wins the match.~~

f) If a P-Black card is given to both teams simultaneously and neither of the teams can make a replacement and their scores are equal, the team with the higher initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking, wins the match.

g) If a P-Black card is given to both teams simultaneously and neither of the teams can make a replacement and their scores are not equal, the team with the higher score wins the match.

3 In both individual and team competitions

In case of unwillingness to fight, it is up to the referee to call "Halt" as a decision of fact (cf. t.136.2).

- a) The P-yellow (warning), ~~and~~ 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. ~~These penalties~~ They are not transferable to the following bout or match.

No P-card (yellow, red or black) may be awarded in individual competitions at 14-14 or in team matches at 44-44.

- b) ~~The P-black card means disqualification for repeated unwillingness to fight. The 60 days suspension does not apply in this case, the fencer or team sanctioned keep their position in the ranking and the points obtained up to the moment of the disqualification.~~ 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 a P-Red card.

- d) The minute starts again after each hit, each hit off the target, each hit annulled and each penalty hit.

- 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.

The table of offences and penalties will be updated accordingly.

Coaches Council: In favour.

Refereeing Commission: In favour.

Rules Commission: In favour, with the following modified details (in blue).

Unwillingness to fight (non-combativity)

t.124

When, ~~for~~ from the fourth time, there is unwillingness to fight, a P-black card is given to the fencer on the piste of either or both teams which have already received two P-red cards.

- e) A team in which a fencer has received a P-black card may use their reserve fencer, if they have one and if the replacement has not already been made previously for tactical or medical reasons. If a replacement is made ~~after~~ following receipt of a P-black card, no further replacement may be made, even for medical reasons.

If no replacement can be made following receipt of a P-black card (because there is no reserve fencer or because the reserve fencer has already been used previously), the team in which a fencer has been sanctioned by a P-black card loses the match.

f) If a P-Black card is given to the fencers on the piste in both teams simultaneously and neither of the teams can make a replacement and their scores are equal, the team with the higher initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking, wins the match.

g) If a P-Black card is given to the fencers on the piste in both teams simultaneously and neither of the teams can make a replacement and their scores are not equal, the team with the higher score wins the match.

f) h) 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.(text moved from 3.f)

The following text in 3) f is moved to 2) h :

3 In both individual and team competitions

~~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.~~

Executive Committee: In favour, with the modifications made by the Rules Commission, which have also been agreed with the Refereeing Commission. The updated and harmonized rule must be published immediately in order to avoid confusion.

Article: m.2

P. 10

Proposal from: Executive Committee

Motivation: This proposal is linked to the meeting of the SEMI Commission with the manufacturers following incidents at sabre.

Proposal:

General description

m.2

All weapons are composed of the following parts.

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.**

Application: TBD.

SEMI Commission: In favour.

Coaches Council: in general Coaches Council **supports the decision**, but statistics of use maraging and not maraging blades should be recorded and analysed. Testing procedures and regulations should be created.

Rules Commission: In favour

Medical Commission: The Medical Commission **agrees** with SEMI and approved Proposal m.2.

Executive Committee: In favour. For sabre (the rule is already in force for épée and foil), the obligation will apply from the beginning of the 2020-2021 season. However, it is strongly recommended to the fencers to advance the date of application.

Article: m.18.3

P. 11

Proposal from: SEMI Commission

Motivation: At the moment, the sockets inside of the epee guard have the two wires passing through one hole, some countries use this hole while other countries do not; in both cases there may be some problems. If the two wires are outside of the hole, it is very easy to cut these wires whether intentionally or unintentionally. If the two wires are inside the hole there is possibility of contact between them.

Proposal:

Amended text:

m.18.3 (new)

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

Rules Commission: In favour, with the following modification:

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.

SEMI Commission: In favour of the modified proposal of the Rules Commission

Executive Committee: In favour of the proposal as modified by the Rules Commission.

Article: m.25.3.c

P. 12

Proposal from: Italian Fencing Federation

Motivation: During some national competitions in Italy were seized some breeches transformed from right-handed to left handed or vice versa.

The practice is dangerous because the flap covering the zip is sewn in the opposite direction of the action and can be an obstacle for the tip, directing it towards a weak spot of the garment, the zipper.

The garments were seized as tampered because they violate Article t.73 of the technical rules. The brand and the pocket were moved on the other side.

Anyway it was realized that on the Material Rules there is no mention about the correct use of the jacket and the breeches for right or left handed.

Proposal:

In the Material Rules, in the art. m.25.3.c add after the second sentence:

The zippers of the uniform, jacket and breeches, (typically zips), must be protected by a flap sewn to cover the zippers in the direction of the fencer's armed arm (right handed from right to left – left handed from left to right).

SEMI Commission: In favour and suggest that m.25.6 relating to left and right handed gloves also amended by addition of wording that “the closure of the glove should be from the middle of the wrist upwards towards the thumb.”

Rules Commission: In favour – with the following modifications (English only):

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).

Executive Committee: In favour of the proposal as modified by the SEMI Commission.

Article: m.25.3.h

P. 13

Proposal from: Athletes Commission

Motivation: In order to emphasize the prestige of being World champion or Olympic champion and make the holder of the title immediately recognizable, the Commission proposes to allow a different colour for the name printed on the back of the jacket:

- In red for the World Champion
- In gold for the Olympic Champion.

Proposal

m.25.3.h

h) The 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 capitals, between 8 cm and 10 cm high, and between 1 cm and 1.5 cm wide, according to the length of the name.

For the World Champion, the letters of the name of the fencer and the abbreviation of the national federation shall be in red.

For the Olympic Champion, the letters of the name of the fencer and the abbreviation of the national federation shall be in gold.

Rules Commission: In favour, with the following additions:

For the Senior Individual World Champion, the letters of the name of the fencer and the abbreviation of the national federation shall be in red.

For the Individual Olympic Champion, the letters of the name of the fencer and the abbreviation of the national federation shall be in gold.

PCM Commission: The Promotion, Communication, and Marketing Commission agrees that we should be promoting our World and Olympic Champions. However, we are concerned that simply changing the colour of the names may be unclear to spectators, and that after that year (or 4 years for the Olympics) the fencer may have to change back the colours and that recognition will be lost.

Our alternative proposal takes inspiration from other sports, will be immediately recognisable to spectators even if they are not familiar with fencing, and will provide a permanent promotional boost for the fencer for their entire career.

Proposal

m.25.3.h

h) The 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 capitals, between 8 cm and 10 cm high, and between 1 cm and 1.5 cm wide, according to the length of the name.

Each year, the World Champion in Senior Individual and Team Competitions, shall be entitled to print a five-point star on the back of the jacket, above the name. Each star must be in dark blue and have equal height and width of between 2 cm and 3 cm.

The Olympic Champions in Individual and Team Competitions, shall be entitled to print a five-point star on the back of the jacket, above the name. Each star must be in gold and have equal height and width of between 2 cm and 3 cm.

Inspiration:



Sample Concept:



Executive Committee: In favour of the proposal as submitted by the Athletes' Commission, as an option and not an obligation. This option would be applicable to individual and team World Champions, and to individual and team Olympic Champions.

Application: starting from season 2020-2021.

Proposal from: SEMI Commission

Motivation: It is a long time since we have used the mask wire where one end has been connected to the jacket with crocodile clip and another end with soldering to the mask.

Proposal:

Amended text:

m.32.4

The **electrical contact** between the conductive jacket and the mask must be ensured by means of a white coloured or clear covered wire with ~~one or~~ two crocodile clips. The wire must be attached to the mask with one crocodile clip ~~or by soldering~~ and to the jacket with ~~another a~~ crocodile clip. This wire must be between 30cm and 40cm long. A coiled mask wire is not allowed.

m.32.5

The **electrical resistance** between the crocodile clip and any point on the mask must be less than 5 ohms. The crocodile clip(s), the design and size of which must conform to the conditions laid down in Article m.29.2(c), must be soldered to the end(s) of the wire. In addition, the electrical resistance in this wire (between ~~the two~~ crocodile clips ~~and crocodile clip or crocodile clip and soldering~~) must not exceed 1 ohm. The wire must be white-coloured or clear.

Rules Commission: In favour – with one extra deletion from m.32.5 because of repetition:

m.32.5

The **electrical resistance** between the crocodile clip and any point on the mask must be less than 5 ohms. The crocodile clip(s), the design and size of which must conform to the conditions laid down in Article m.29.2(c), must be soldered to the end(s) of the wire. In addition, the electrical resistance in this wire (between ~~the two~~ crocodile clips ~~and crocodile clip or crocodile clip and soldering~~) must not exceed 1 ohm. ~~The wire must be white-coloured or clear.~~

SEMI Commission: In favour of the modified proposal of the Rules Commission.

Executive Committee: In favour of the proposal as modified by the Rules Commission.

Proposal from: SEMI Commission

Motivation: Material Rules Annex A page 2 there is already a section titled *Modification management*.

Proposal:

Modification management:

- 1) The homologation is valid for the duration specified in the technical handbooks as long as no modification is made to the equipment or its manufacturing process.
- 2) Any change must be **immediately** reported to the FIE SEMI Commission President. **These changes cover all aspects of the homologated items (appearance, composition, internal content, software and all other material changes).**
- 3) The modified equipment must pass the whole homologation process again.

In particular, if a manufacturer intends to change the material or the manufacturing of his FIE certified equipment, ~~he~~ **the manufacturer** must submit ~~it to~~ **for** a new homologation process and wait for the result.

Technical handbooks:

- 1) Technical handbooks are elaborated by the SEMI and submitted to the Executive Committee.
- 2) Technical handbooks are specific to each item of equipment.

Marks:

The FIE emblem is a registered trademark.

It can only be used on equipment that has successfully undergone the FIE homologation process.

By affixing the FIE label of quality to their equipment manufacturers guarantee that such marked equipment fulfils FIE technical and security requirements.

Expenses:

All the expenses and costs related to the homologation of the equipment (**e.g. masks, blades, breeches, jackets, under-plastron**), pistes and apparatus, software and video systems) are chargeable to the requester.

Withdrawal or suspension of a homologation:

Homologation can be withdrawn or suspended when the SEMI Commission becomes aware that:

- a) the homologated material no longer conforms with the Rules; or
- b) after the homologation has been granted, the material has been modified significantly and the modifications have not been submitted for a new homologation.

Random quality control of Fencing Equipment

~~Whenever it deems necessary, t-~~ The FIE SEMI Commission may obtain a random sample of any specific item of fencing equipment available on the market. Having obtained the equipment, the SEMI will submit it to technical analysis for quality control purposes.

Should there be any doubt as to the quality of the item, the SEMI may send it directly to an agreed **certified** independent institute for testing; tests will be carried out in accordance with the existing FIE material rules and with CE/EC standards.

Should the tests reveal any non-conformity or any lowering of quality level, the SEMI will take appropriate action, which may involve the application of a penalty. In extreme cases, the manufacturer may lose a previously awarded FIE homologation.

SEMI Commission: In favour with the following modification: (English and French only):

Should there be any doubt as to the quality of the item, the SEMI may send it directly to an **agreed certified** independent institute for testing; tests will be carried out in accordance with the existing FIE material rules and with CE/EC standards.

Rules Commission: In favour.

Executive Committee: In favour of the proposal as modified by the SEMI Commission.

Article: Annex B to the Materials Rules – C Sabre – b) sensitivity and regularity

P. 16

Proposal from: Athletes Commission

Motivation: cancellation of the blocking time at sabre as not necessary for the current sabre fencing.

Proposal: Deletion of paragraph 6

~~6. Should there be a hit made by the whipping over of the blade which has not been signalled, whatever method has been used to prevent the signalling, after 15 ms (\pm 5 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.~~

SEMI Commission: Not in favour.

Rules Commission: In favour.

Refereeing Commission: Not in favour.

Coaches Council: Not in favour.

Executive Committee: Not in favour because this modification would change sabre from a conventional weapon to a non-conventional weapon.