

Summary of rules changes

Implementation March 31, 2014

- t.15.2 Clarification of who should apply penalties for practicing without equipment
- t.20.2 Simple corps a corps will no longer be a penalty
- t.21.3 Clarification about passing the opponent
- t.26.1 Clarification that a foot must be completely off the strip to be considered off
- t.32.4 Applies only to use of wireless equipment
- t.39 Clarification that the Head Referee assists with referee assignment
- t.45.1 A fencer must come to strip with an extra mask-cord in foil and saber
- t.54.1.c Valid touches registered off the valid target regarding m.27 & m.28
- t.56.4 Beats on the lower third of the blade in foil will be considered parries
- t.70.3 Clarification of blows struck with the guard
- t.71 Saber target changes to reflect current manufacturing of lames
- t.82 Insulting an official is an immediate black card
- t.87.3.b Throwing a mask is a black card
- t.87.4.a Non-combativity criteria no longer includes blade contact
- t.90 In team events, only the team captain can lodge protests
- t.92 Coaches may be by the strip during direct elimination matches
- t.95.4 Appeals are no longer required to be accompanied by a guaranty
- t.106 Wording clarification about exclusion
- t.120 Amending the table of penalties to reflect the rules

All changes to Organizational Rules – recommend changing for consistency’s sake but none will affect USA Fencing competitions since the Operations Manual is the relevant document for USA Fencing.

- m.27.3 Clarifying mask cord length tolerances
- m.28.1 The lame must cover the target in foil when in the on-guard position
- m.34.1 Matching language to t.71

Annex A Random quality control of equipment by SEMI

Annex A Transparent masks are banned in all weapons – recommend adopting March 1 or 1 month after approved, whichever is longer, in order to allow fencers to purchase equipment that complies.

Annex A Non-maraging steel blades are prohibited in FIE competitions – will not impact US Fencing tournaments, recommend adoption for consistency

9) DECEMBER 2013: DECISIONS AT THE 2013 CONGRESS, APPLICATION 1st JANUARY 2013 OR THE APPROPRIATE SUBSEQUENT COMPETITION UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

t.15.2 – *Add to the end of the Article the following text:*

The Supervisor of the competition or a member of the Directoire Technique must penalize any person not respecting this rule with a yellow card, followed by a black card in case of a repeated infringement.

t.20.2

DELETE the Article and RENUMBER 2.20.3 as t.20.2.

t.21.3 – *REPLACE the Article with:*

When a fencer goes **completely past** his opponent during a bout, the Referee must immediately call ‘Halt!’ and replace the competitors in the positions which they occupied before the passing took place.

t.22.2 – *REPLACE the first paragraph with:*

At foil and sabre, it is forbidden to **protect** the target area or to **substitute** another part of the

body for the target area by covering it (cf. t.114, t.116, t.120); any hit scored by the fencer at fault is annulled.

t.26.1 – *REPLACE the first paragraph with:*

When a competitor **crosses one of the lateral boundaries** of the piste with **one or both feet completely off the piste**, the Referee must immediately call ‘Halt!’.

t.32.4 – *Add to the end of Article t.32 the following t.32.4:*

When wireless apparatus is used, no hits registered after the end of fencing time will be awarded, even if a lamp is showing on the wireless apparatus.

t.37.3

For each quarter of the table, 4 referees are assigned by drawing lots from among at least 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 4 video-consultants will be assigned by drawing lots among at least 4 to 5 referees.

t.37.5

For the final of 4, the Refereeing Delegates, immediately after the end of the direct elimination tables, select 4 referees by lot from among at least 4 to 5 referees, who must be of a different nationality from any of the fencers.

15 minutes before the final, the Refereeing Delegates will draw lots to assign the referees for all the bouts for the two semi-finals, in the following order: 1st semifinal, 2nd semi-final.

As soon as the two semi-finals are over, the Refereeing Delegates will establish a list of 4-5 referees and draw lots to assign the referee and the video-consultant for the final, as well as (at the OG) the referee and the video-consultant of the bout for the 3rd place.

.39 – *REPLACE the Article with:*

Rules described in t.37 and t.38 above are applied by the Directoire Technique, assisted for the finals by the official FIE Refereeing delegate.

t.45.1 – *ADD to the 2nd item (‘with only one regulation bodywire; or’ a new item:-*

with only one regulation mask wire; or

t.54.1.c):

DELETE this paragraph.

t.56.4 *ADD this Article after t.56.3, as follows:-*

t.56.4.

- Attacks by beats on the blade:

a) In an attack by beating on the blade, this attack is correctly carried out and retains its priority when the beat is made on the foible of the opponent’s blade, i.e. the two-thirds of the blade furthest from the guard.

b) in an attack by beating on the blade, when the beat is made on the forte of the opponent’s blade, i.e. the one-third of the blade nearest the guard, the attack is badly executed and the beat gives the opponent the right to an immediate riposte.

t.70.3, 2nd sentence, REPLACE ‘Any hits caused by hitting with the guard’with:-

Any hits registered by hitting with the guard....

.71, 2nd para. REPLACE with:-

The **target** comprises any part of the body above a horizontal line drawn between the tops of the hip bones and then horizontally round the fencer's trunk

t.82.3 – *REPLACE the Article with:*

3 a) Everybody taking part in or present at a fencing competition **must remain orderly and must not disturb the smooth running** of the competition. During bouts no one is allowed to go near the pistes, ~~to give advice to the fencers~~, to **criticise the Referee** or the judges or to attempt to influence them in any way. Even the **team captain** must remain in the space assigned to him and he may only intervene in the situations and in the manner provided for in Article **t.90** of the Rules. The Referee must stop immediately any activity which disturbs the smooth running of the bout which he is refereeing (cf. **t.96.1–3**).

b) Any person who, for any reason, threatens or insults an official commits an offence of the 4th group and is penalised according to article t.119.

t.87.2– *REPLACE the words after 'with violence' with the following:*

All bouts must preserve the **character of a courteous and frank encounter**. All **irregular actions** (flèche attack which finishes with a collision jostling the opponent, disorderly fencing, irregular movements on the piste, hits achieved with violence, **blows struck with the guard**, hits made during or after a fall) or **anti-sporting behaviour** are strictly forbidden (cf. t.114–t.120). Should such an offence occur, any hit scored by the fencer at fault is annulled.

t.87.3– *RENUMBER as t.87.3.a) and ADD a new t.87.3.b) as follows:*

b) During or after a bout, even if the fencer has already left the piste, any act against the spirit of sportsmanship such as violently or dangerously throwing one's mask (or any other piece of equipment) will be penalised as specified in article t.119 (cf. t.82.1, 2 and 3).

t.87.4.2 – *DELETE 'absence of blade contact or' from the last sentence.*

.90.1 – *REPLACE the Article with:*

1 In team events, only the team captain has the right to approach **the Referee and/or the Directoire Technique**, in order to decide with **them** any technical matters, or to register protests. **The procedure for claims is set out in articles t. 122 and t.123.**

.92.1 – *REPLACE the Articles with:*

1 **During the direct elimination of the individual events, the fencer's coach, medical staff and technicians** are not allowed to remain near their fencers; **the coaches** are allowed to be inside the competition area in a place indicated by the organizers.

t.95.4 – *DELETE this Article.*

t.106.1 – *REPLACE the Article with:*

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

t.120

- *ADD a new note to the Article heading*

This table is intended to be a convenient summary: it is not a substitute for the full texts of the articles concerned, which should be consulted in any case of doubt

~~DELETE~~ point 1.2

~~1.7 ADD an asterisk ()~~*

~~1.10 REPLACE reference 70.6 by 70.5~~

-ADD a new line 1.19

Entering the Piste Enclosure without the Referee's permission + t.92.6

-2.5 ADD an asterisk (*)

3.1 and 3.4: ADD in the left hand box for articles t.120.3.1 and t.120.3.4:

In the most serious cases, the referee may award a black card immediately (t.118.4).

-ADD a new line 3.5 as follows in the 'YELLOW/BLACK' section:

Warming up or training without wearing fencing clothing and equipment which conforms with the FIE regulations (t. 15.2).

-ADD a new line 3.6 as follows in the 'YELLOW/BLACK' section:

Anti-sporting behaviour (t. 87.2)

-ADD to the 'EXPLANATIONS' after *, as follows:

+ **Special YELLOW CARD** for the whole team and valid for the whole team match. If, during the same match, a fencer commits an offence of the 1st group, the Referee penalises with a **RED CARD** each time.

o.14 – o15.3.b) – REPLACE these Articles with:

IMPLEMENTATION: 2014-15 SEASON

o.14. The order of bouts in the pools is as follows:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Pool of seven | 2. Pool of six |
| 1-4 5-1 3-5 | 1-2 5-4 6-4 |
| 2-5 4-3 1-6 | 4-3 1-6 2-3 |
| 3-6 6-2 2-4 | 6-5 3-5 1-4 |
| 7-1 5-7 7-3 | 3-1 4-2 5-2 |
| 5-4 3-1 6-5 | 2-6 5-1 3-6 |
| 2-3 4-6 1-2 | |
| 6-7 7-2 4-7 | |

o.15. When there are several fencers from the same country in a pool:

1. If they **do not form the majority** of the competitors in the pool, they must fence off the bouts between themselves before meeting competitors of another nationality.

2. If they **form the majority** of the competitors in the pool, the Directoire Technique may establish a special order of bouts, departing as little as possible from the principle laid down in (a) above, in order to obviate excessive fatigue or delays for the competitors who form the minority in the pool.

3. Examples of the **order of fencers of the same nationality** in a pool of six:

- a) When a pool contains, among its six fencers,
- **two fencers of the same nationality A**, or
 - **two fencers of the same nationality A and two of the same**

nationality B

— **two fencers of the same nationality A, two of the same nationality B, and two of the same nationality C**,

the fencers' names are placed on the pool sheet in such a way that those of the same nationality fence each other in their first bout and the order of bouts of a pool of six is that shown in Article o.14 above.

b) When a pool contains among its six fencers,

- **three fencers of the same nationality A**, or
- **three fencers of the same nationality A and two fencers of the same nationality B**, or
- **three fencers of the same nationality A and three fencers of the same nationality B**, the order will be as follows:

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

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

the fencers' names are placed on the pool sheet in the following way:
— the fencers of nationality A are given numbers 1, 2 and 3;
— the fencers of nationality B are given numbers 4 and 5 or 4, 5 and 6.

o.27.2 – ADD a second sentence the Article and renumber as follows:-

o.27 The final

1. The final, which is by direct elimination, **will preferably** consist of 4 fencers.
2. The finals of men's and women's same weapons should preferably be held on the same day.

o.31.2 – REPLACE the Article with:

2. The day before the competition, the organisers must publish **and send to the FIE** the pools **and relevant schedules**, as well as the list of exempt fencers, at the latest at 3:00 p.m. (local time). To do so, they must download the entry file from the FIE web site at the latest the day before the competition. **No addition may be made to the pools already published, unless they come from pools starting at the same time (cf. o. 12.1)-**

o.43.2-4 – REPLACE these Articles with:

(IMPLEMENTATION RE JUNIOR WORLD CUP: 2014-15 SEASON)

2. At the **Junior and** Open World Championships the teams will occupy the places in the table according to the **most recent official team ranking of the FIE**. The teams that are not classified will occupy the last places in the table, and will be separated by drawing of lots.
3. **At the Open World Championships, all places in the table up to 16th place** will be fought for. From 17th place onwards teams will be classified, within each round of the table, according to their initial place in the table.

4. At the **Junior World Championships** the **first sixteen places** will be fought for. From **seventeenth** place onwards teams will be classified, within each round of the table, according to their initial place in the table.

Title – B. Preceding o.45: change to:

WORLD CUP JUNIOR AND OPEN TEAM COMPETITIONS

o.45 – REPLACE the Article with:

(IMPLEMENTATION RE JUNIOR WORLD CUP: 2014-15 SEASON)

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

o.54 – REPLACE the Article TITLE with:

(IMPLEMENTATION RE JUNIOR WORLD CUP: 2014-15 SEASON)

Entries by name for Senior and Junior World Cup competitions, Grand Prix competitions, Satellite competitions, **Junior and Open World Cup team competitions and Zonal senior and junior Championships.**

o.54. 2 – REPLACE the Article with:

2. Withdrawal of a fencer or team

After the closing dead-line for entries, no named fencer or team may be withdrawn, except for reasons of injury or force majeure: the national federation must inform the FIE and the organisers.

o.54. 4 – REPLACE the Article with:

4. Addition of a fencer or a team after the dead-line

a) However, until the Tuesday preceding the competition (midnight, Lausanne time), one or more fencers and/or a team may be added by their national federation, after payment to the FIE of a penalty (cf o.86, table of financial penalties and fines) for each additional fencer.

To do this, the national federation must send to the FIE (by fax or e-mail) a request for the additional **fencer(s) and/or team and a written commitment to pay the penalty within 15 days.**

b) From the Wednesday preceding the competition and until 12 am (local time) the day preceding the competition, one or more fencers and/or a team may be added by national federations after payment to the FIE of a higher penalty (cf. article o.86, table of financial penalties and fines) for each additional fencer.

To do this, the national federation must send to the FIE (by fax or e-mail) a request for the additional **fencer(s) and/or team and a written commitment to pay the penalty within 15 days.**

o.55. 5 – REPLACE the Article (APPLICATION 1st MARCH, 2014) with:

5. All participants in an official competition of the FIE who are under the age of majority in the country in which such competition is being held must either:
 - 1) be accompanied by a person who is a parent or guardian of the participant or who has **been delegated, on a form valid in the country of the competition,** from a parent or guardian of such participant to act on behalf of

the participant regarding health-related issues; or 2) have such power of attorney issued to a person who has achieved his/her majority and who will be at the competition site during the competition and has agreed to accept the responsibility delineated in such power

o.62 – REPLACE the Article with:

For questions concerning the rules **during FIE competitions (including the World Championships and the Olympic Games)**, the Refereeing Commission delegate(s) alone are competent to **judge a referee's decisions from the beginning to the end of the bout**.

At competitions where there is no Refereeing Commission delegate, it is the Supervisor who fulfils this function.

The Supervisor settles any **other** disputes that might arise in Category A and Grand Prix competitions.

It is the responsibility of the Bureau of the FIE or of its designated representative to settle any **other** disputes which arise at World Championships

o.70.4 – REPLACE the Article with:

Neutral referees: At least two international referees, from countries outside the region of the Games, appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE **at the proposal of the Refereeing Commission**.

o.75 – REPLACE the Article with:

(IMPLEMENTATION RE JUNIOR WORLD CUP: 2014-15 SEASON)

The title “World Cup Competition” applies to the following competitions:

- The individual competitions of the Open World Cup and the Grand Prix competitions
- The competitions of the Junior World Cup
- The competitions of the **Junior and Open** Team World Cup

o.81.2, application 2013-2014 season

For Open A-grade, **Grand Prix and World Cup team competitions, 8 referees**, proposed by the Refereeing Commission, will be designated by the Executive Committee **and delegations will not have to provide any referees**. The additional referees required (not less than 5) will be provided by the organising committee. All the **referees will be at the expense of the organisers who in return will keep the entry fees**.

o.82. 1-2 – REPLACE the Articles with:

(IMPLEMENTATION RE JUNIOR WORLD CUP: 2014-15 SEASON)

1 Application

Junior and Open Team World Cup competitions take place at the three weapons, both male and female.

2 Principles

a) The **Open** Team World Cup tournament is composed of a maximum of five **integral competitions** (through to the first place) spread, if possible, across all continents. Points will be allocated at the end of each competition.

The **Junior** Team World Cup tournament is composed of four integral competitions and points will be allocated at the end of each competition.

o.84. 1 – REPLACE the Article with:

(IMPLEMENTATION RE JUNIOR WORLD CUP: 2014-15 SEASON)

1 Official team ranking of the FIE

a) Principle

The official **Open** team ranking of the FIE takes into account a team's best four results in the **Open** Team World Cup competitions, irrespective of continent, plus the Open World Championships or the Olympic Games and the Zonal Championships.

The official **Junior** team ranking of the FIE takes into account a team's four results in the Team Junior World Cup competitions, irrespective of continent, plus the junior team World Championships and the junior team Zonal Championships.

o.84.3 – *REPLACE the Article with:*

(IMPLEMENTATION RE JUNIOR WORLD CUP: 2014-15 SEASON)

3 Honours

The **winner** (first ranked team) of each official **Junior and Open** team ranking of the FIE will be announced at the end of the World Championships or Olympic Games.

o.86 – *REPLACE the Article with:*

NOTE: CONGRESS VOTED TO SHOW ONLY EUROS

o.86 TABLE OF FINANCIAL PENALTIES AND FINES

1) *Delete all CHF values throughout the table. Fines are to be quoted in euros only.*

2) *Modify the 2nd category as follows:*

Entry to other FIE competitions after closing date, until the Tuesday preceding the competition	o.54.4 a)	150 euros per entry	With the entry	FIE	By the National Federation
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3) *Introduce a new category after the 2nd category as follows:*

Entry to other FIE competitions after closing date, from the Wednesday and until the day (12 am local time) preceding the competition	o.54.4 b)	250 euros per entry	With the entry	FIE	By the National Federation
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m.27.3 – *ADD to the end of this Article the following:*

In the case of a coiled wire, the maximum length of the free cable must not exceed 25 cm in length with a tolerance of +/- 5 cm.

m.28.1 – *MODIFY the first sentence of this Article to read as follows:*

The conductive surface of the conductive over-jacket which is worn over the protective jacket must cover the valid target of the fencer (cf t.47) entirely and without omission when in the on-guard position.

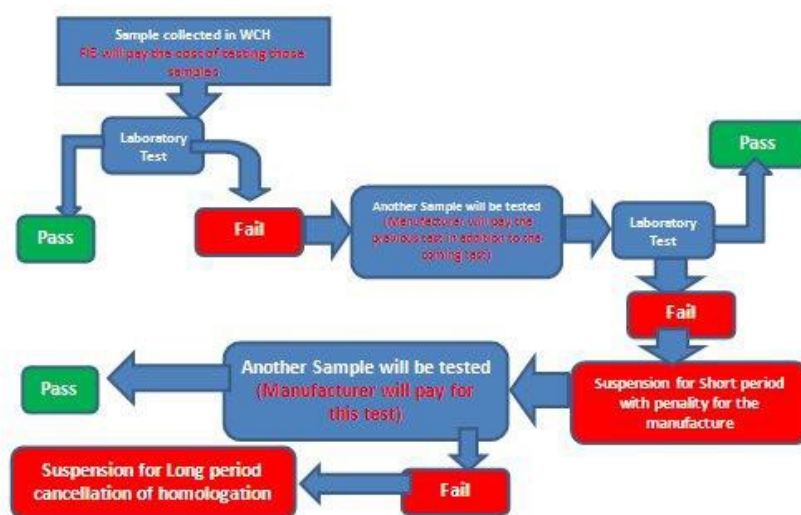
m.34.1 – *MODIFY the first sentence of the Article as follows:*

The fencer must wear, over his jacket, a **conductive over-jacket**, the conductive surface of which must cover entirely and without omission the valid surface of the body above a horizontal line which, when the fencer is on guard, joins, round the fencer's trunk, **the tops of the two hip bones**.

ANNEXE A TO BOOK M, PAGE 54 OF CURRENT (WEB) EDITION, at end of Homologation process system ('modifications have not been submitted for a new homologation'. ADD:-

Random quality control of Fencing equipment

Whenever it deems necessary, 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 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.



Occasional check

The SEMI alone may:-

- carry out occasional checks on blades (three blades);
- at World Championships, obtain a selection of blades bearing the official FIE guarantee stamp;
- have the blades tested at the approved laboratories, distributing the work evenly between them.

Should the blades fail the tests, the manufacturers will pay for the blades and for the costs of the tests, their homologation will be annulled and the manufacturer will have to submit ten further blades for a new homologation process. There will be no certificate issued for the occasional check.

ANNEXE A L3.2 of book m. DELETE the following from the end of the Article

~~The FIE has accepted the use of non-Maring steel of the following types for the manufacture of épée blades:~~

~~— 45Si7, 45Si Cr Mo, 45 XH2 MFA.~~

~~Blades made with these steels must, obviously, comply with the cycles of resistance to fatigue established by the SEMI.~~

Replace with the following:

Application: Non-maraging steel épée blades will no longer be accepted for homologation after 01.01.2014 and non-maraging steel épée blades already homologated will not be accepted in FIE competitions from 31.12.2015.

ANNEXE A 1.6.9 of book m.

-MODIFY TITLE TO

'Fatigue resistance test of Blades (by bending etc)'

-REPLACE first paragraph with:-

In order to examine the behavior of blades during normal fencing activity, the blades to be tested must undergo a test of their resistance to metal fatigue with a special apparatus, either mechanical or pneumatic, **homologated by the FIE SEMI Commission.**

ANNEXE A 2.1.2.1 of book m.

REPLACE after 'Currently only composite masks have been accepted by the FIE' with the following:

The wearing of the transparent mask is **forbidden** at all weapons and in all FIE competitions.

Veteran World Championships

The wearing of the transparent mask is **forbidden** at the Veterans World championships, at all three weapons.