

## PROPOSALS OF MODIFICATIONS TO THE RULES 2015 CONGRESS

### Proposals of the Executive Committee

#### Proposal 1

**Motivation:** Update of the Publicity Code in line with standards that are closer to reality and harmonised with those of the IOC.

#### MARKS

##### p.9 Definition

The **mark** is the name or badge which identifies the origin, the manufacturer or the seller of a particular piece of the fencer's equipment.

As soon as the mark exceeds the normal or authorised dimensions, it becomes an **advertisement** and comes under the jurisdiction of the regulation below. (Cf. p.12)

##### p.10 Position and sizes

- 1 The articles of the fencers' **equipment** may carry the following visible marks:
  - a) **mask**: one mark on the rear of the spring. Maximum size: ~~6 x 5.5 cm~~ 12.5 cm<sup>2</sup>.
  - b) **jacket**: one mark at the bottom of the jacket on the hip on the side of the non-sword arm. Maximum size: ~~4.5 x 2 cm~~ 30 cm<sup>2</sup>.
  - c) ~~breeches~~ trousers: one mark at the bottom ~~of the breeches of the~~ trousers, on one side only. Maximum size: ~~4.5 x 2 cm~~ 30 cm<sup>2</sup>.
  - d) ~~stockings~~ **socks**: one mark on each ~~stocking sock. in size 4.5 x 2 cm.~~ Maximum size: 10 cm<sup>2</sup>.
  - e) **shoes**: the name of the brand on each shoe. Maximum size: ~~4.5 x 2 cm~~ 10 cm<sup>2</sup> or the usual logos (e.g.: bands).
  - f) **glove**: ~~no mark.~~ One mark: maximum size: 10 cm<sup>2</sup>. If the mark is affixed on the glove with the help of a label (glued or sewn), the latter must be placed on the cuff.
  - g) **weapon**: ~~no mark visible at a distance. One mark.~~ Maximum size: 2.5 cm<sup>2</sup>.
  - h) **electric jacket**: one mark at the bottom of the jacket on the hip of the side of the non-sword arm. Maximum size: 30 cm<sup>2</sup>.

**Application as follows:** 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2016

**Opinion of the Promotion and Publicity Commission:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Executive Committee:** In favour.

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## **Proposal 2**

**Motivation:** Allowing fencers to take advantage of potential sponsors.

p.12

### **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 cm<sup>2</sup> in size, may be affixed at the top of the sleeve of the fencing jacket (non-sword arm), on the side of the trousers (left or right), or on the socks. 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 cm<sup>2</sup> on each side of the mask.

- b) The **number of logos** shall not exceed ~~four~~ five. The **total surface** of all logos added together may not exceed a total of 500 square centimetres.

**Application as follows:** 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2016

**Opinion of the Promotion and Publicity Commission:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Executive Committee:** In favour.

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## **Proposal 3**

**Motivation:** The following is no longer part of common practice. Furthermore, it may provoke conflicts with the sponsors of athletes or federations. Therefore, the proposal is to remove the following articles from the Publicity Code:

~~p.12.5.b) As far as possible, the **organisers** must make it clear, in the conditions of entry for the competition, the way in which advertising material worn or carried by the fencers will be permitted.~~

#### ~~LEG-BAND OR SELF-ADHESIVE NOTICE~~

~~p.13~~

#### ~~1 Principles~~

~~a) The organisers of a competition may identify the fencers by issuing them with a number on a **leg-band** or on a **self-adhesive badge**.~~

~~b) In such a case, the wearing of this **band** or **badge** is obligatory for the fencers.~~

~~c) The **self-adhesive badge** must be of a rough material which will not cause the point to slip.~~

~~d) The **leg-band** or **self-adhesive badge** may have on it advertising material within the limitations of the rules below.~~

~~e) The **circular** announcing the details of the competition must make clear what bands or badges the fencers are to wear, and what publicity will be on them.~~

~~**Entering the competition** implies an acceptance by the fencer of the obligation to wear the band or badge in question.~~

#### ~~2 Position and size~~

~~a) The **leg-band** must be fixed to the thigh on the side of the non-sword arm. The maximum **size** of the leg-band is of 20 x 20 cm. The fencer's number must be at least 10 cm high and 15 cm in width.~~

~~.b) The **self-adhesive badges** must be fixed to both sides of the mask, on the side mesh.~~

~~The maximum **size** of the badges must be 10 cm wide by 15 cm high. The fencer's number must be no more than 8 cm high by 8 cm wide. At foil and épée only the self-adhesive badge of the competition taking place must be worn.~~

~~c) In both cases, **the advertising**, words or badge, must be placed below the number and must not exceed 35 mm in height.~~

~~.d) If the self-adhesive badge on the mask **does not include a number**, it may only be used for advertising following agreement with the FIE.~~

**Application as follows:** 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2016

**Opinion of the Promotion and Publicity Commission:** In favour

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Executive Committee:** In favour.

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## Proposal 4

**Motivation:** Clarifying the criteria for ranking fencers in the case of a barrage following the pools.

**o.32. 2.** After the round of pools, the 16 fencers ranked highest on the general index (cf. o.19) are exempt from the preliminary direct elimination table. Should there be a tie between two or more fencers for the 16th place, there will be a barrage for 5 hits to decide who is ranked 16th. **Following the barrage, the ranking of the fencers shall be determined according to V, TD-TR, TD.**

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Executive Committee:** In favour.

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## Proposal 5

**Motivation:** Shorten the hours of competitions for the benefit of the athletes.

### o.40

1 All the fencers qualifying from the round of pools are placed in a direct elimination table, complete or incomplete, according to the **indices resulting from the pools**. This table is fenced right through to the final.

2 **For the junior World Cup competitions, from the last 32 the direct elimination bouts will take place on 4 pistes**, with each quarter of the table fenced on one piste.

**For the cadets and juniors World Championships, from the last 32 the direct elimination bouts will take place on 8 pistes**, with each quarter of the table fenced on 2 pistes.

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** In favour (under condition that we've video at all pistes)

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** Not In favour. If this proposal is for the benefit of the athletes, it should be implemented also for junior world cups. Conditions should be the same during the season.

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Executive Committee:** In order to comply with the requests of the rules and refereeing Commissions, the Executive Committee harmonize its proposal as follows:

2. ~~From the last 32 the direct elimination bouts will take place on 4 pistes, with each quarter of the table fenced on one piste.~~

For the junior World Cups competition and the cadet and junior World Championships, from the last 32 the **direct elimination bouts may take place on 8 pistes, with video refereeing**, with each quarter of the table fenced on 2 pistes.

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## Proposal 6

**Motivation:** permitting the replacement of a fencer up until the Wednesday preceding the competition.

### o.54

The entry of the names of the fencers for the competitions of the World Cup, juniors, seniors, Grand Prix competitions, juniors and seniors team World Cup, and juniors and seniors Zone Championships.

### 3 Substitution of a fencer

Until the ~~Tuesday~~ **Wednesday (midnight, Lausanne time)** preceding the competition, a fencer may be replaced by another. To do this, the national federation must send to the FIE, by fax or e-mail, a written request to substitute the fencer.

**Application as follows:** 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2016

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour with the following changes due to the fact that Zonal Championships can take place any day of the week:

1. Delete the words "~~et aux Championnats de zone juniors et seniors.~~" » from article o.54
2. Modify o.53 :

### o.54

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

### o.53

Entries for World Championships (all categories) **and junior and senior zonal championships**

**o.53. 1.** Three months before the start of the ~~World Championships events~~, the federations will receive an **entry form** from the Organising Committee, on which they are required to specify the **number** of fencers and teams participating in each event of the competition's programme, two months before the start of the first event.

**2.** The entry of fencers and teams by name is to be made via the FIE website. This entry of the names of the fencers and all possible substitutes, and the entry of teams, must be made:

- fifteen days (by midnight, Lausanne time) before the first event of the [World Championships](#) at the latest.
- [seven days \(by midnight, Lausanne time\) before the first event of the Zonal Championships at the latest.](#)

### 3. Withdrawal of a fencer.

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

Should a fencer or team who have been entered **not present themselves to fence**, their federation will be penalised by a **fine** (cf o.86, table of financial penalties and fines), payable to the FIE, except in cases of properly authenticated 'force majeure'.

### 4. Addition of fencer(s) after the cut-off date.

Nevertheless one or more fencers may be added, up until 10.00am (local time in the town hosting the World [or Zonal Championships](#)) on the day before the competition, after payment to the FIE of a penalty (cf o.86, table of financial penalties and fines) per fencer added. To do this the national federation must address a request to the FIE to add a fencer, together with immediate payment of the penalty.

**5. Changes of names**, only with the agreement of the FIE and ~~only for reasons of 'force majeure'~~, can only be made at the latest up to 24 hours before the start of each event

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

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## Proposal 7

**Motivation:** For the junior World Championships, increase the number of athletes in individual events to equal the one for entries to the junior's team events.

### o.72

[For the cadets World Championships](#), entries are limited to **three fencers per nation** for the individual events.

[For the juniors World Championships](#), the entries are limited to **four fencers per nation** for each individual event, and **one team per nation** for the team events.

**Application as follows:** 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2016

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Executive Committee:** In favour.

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## Proposal 8

**Motivation:** The number of athletes that can be entered and the participation of athletes in the various FIE competitions is listed in the Organisation Rules, **except for the Zone Championships**. Consequently, the proposal is to unify the system as follows:

- article 9.4.2 of the Administrative Rules (entries for the Zone Championships) is deleted (and the subsequent articles must be renumbered).
- the registration rules for the Zone Championships are integrated in the Organisation Rules as follows: the current article o.78 becomes o.78.1, the current article o.79 becomes o.78.2, and the registration rules for the Zone Championships are integrated in article o.79.

### *Participation*

**o.78**

1. For **Grand Prix competitions and Individual World Cup competitions**, both Senior and Junior, at each weapon, each national federation may enter a maximum of 12 fencers. The organising country may enter up to 20 fencers plus the number needed to make up the pools.
2. For **Individual World Cup competitions outside Europe**, the organising country may enter up to 30 fencers plus the number needed to make up the pools.

**o.79**

For **juniors and seniors Individual Zone Championship competitions**, for each weapon, the federations may enter up to 4 fencers.

For **juniors and seniors Team Zone Championship competitions**, for each weapon, the federations may enter 1 team (consisting of three fencers with or without replacement).

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Executive Committee:** In favour.

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## Proposal 9

**Motivation:** Clarification of the text in order to avoid incidents due to the interpretation of the rules.

**General conditions**

**m.25**

The national uniform includes the socks, the trousers, the jacket, and the conductive jacket at foil and sabre. (Cf. m.28, m.34).

### 3 CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CLOTHING:

- e) There shall be only one national uniform per country, with the exception of the manufacturer's mark and the logo of the sponsors.

Application as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2016

**Opinion of the Promotion and Publicity Commission:** In favour

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour, with the exception that the conductive jacket at foil and sabre should not be included in the national uniform and that the translation of the new text in m.25.3.e in English should be improved:

#### General conditions

##### m.25

The national uniform includes the socks, the trousers, and the jacket, ~~and the conductive jacket at foil and sabre. (Cf. m.28, m.34).~~

### 3 CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CLOTHING:

- e) There shall be only one national uniform per country, with the exception that the manufacturers' marks and sponsors' logos may be different. ~~with the exception of the manufacturer's mark and the logo of the sponsors.~~

Application as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2016

**Opinion of the SEMI Commission:** In favour

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

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## Proposal 10

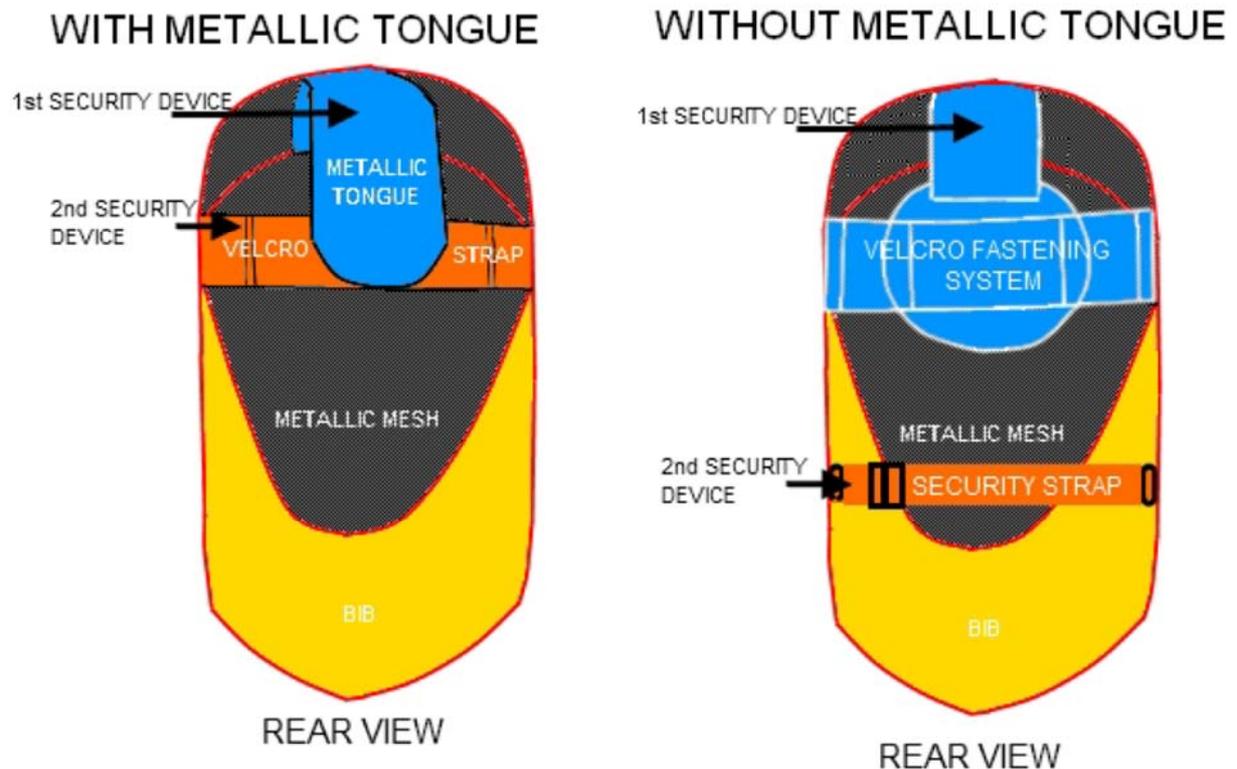
**Motivation:** During the last two seasons, there have been several incidents involving masks which failed to properly secure the position of the mask on the fencer's head, in violation of the standard included in Annex 2.2.4 and of the urgent letter of the Executive Committee # 14 of 15 July 2014. The following modifications are therefore proposed, as well as the correction of a typing error in the French text.

#### m. 25.7 MASK:

- a) The mask must be made with meshes (space between the wires) of maximum 2.1 mm and from wires with a minimum gauge of 1 mm diameter. The mask must include ~~a safety strap at the rear~~ two different safety systems at the rear.

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

Please refer to the examples in the drawings below:



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

## **EQUIPMENT**

### **2. STANDARDS FOR THE MANUFACTURING OF MASKS**

#### **2.2**

#### **4 - Essential constituent elements**

In particular, ~~the rear fixing device must ensure~~ **the rear fixing devices must** make sure that the mask is located in the correct position on the fencer's head and that it remains in a perfect position, even after blows or shocks.

**Application as follows:** 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2016

**Opinion of the Medical Commission:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour.

**Opinion of the SEMI Commission:** Did not vote on this Amendment, because we are working with the European Standards working group for safety in sports in order to achieve a standardization of the rules concerning the mask.

**Opinion of the Executive Committee:** In favour.

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## **Proposal 11**

**Motivation:** During tests performed in 2009, it was established that the adequate blocking time allowing for spectacular actions, such as the parry and the riposte, is situated between 160 and 180 milliseconds. It has been, therefore, proposed to change the current time to 170 milliseconds.

## **ANNEX B**

### **CHARACTERISTICS OF EQUIPMENT**

#### **C) SABRE**

##### **a) Principles**

1) to 7), no change.

8) After a hit has been registered, a subsequent hit made by the other fencer will only be registered if it occurs within a maximum of ~~120~~ **170 milliseconds** ( $\pm 10$  ms tolerance).

9) and 10), no change.

**Application as follows:** vote during the 2015 Congress and, if the change is adopted, application starting with the season 2016-2017.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour of the proposal as modified by the SEMI Commission. Pierre Thullberg and Lutz Schirmmacher made a reservation against the decision.

**Opinion of the SEMI Commission:** In favour. But would suggest that from a technical point of view 180 milliseconds (+/-10 ms tolerance) would be advisable.

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour. However it must be noted that this change would make matches harder to referee. Hence the commission proposes to test intensively by the referees as soon as it is approved. Clearer explanation is expected if the safety of athletes is the largest reason for this change. The commission also considers that

constant changes in few years would not only affect the fencers but also the technical development of saber.

**Opinion of the Coaches Council: In favour.**

**Opinion of the Executive Committee: In favour.**

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### **Proposal 13**

It would be helpful for the fencing world to consider a new sensor for the sabre, using available technologies.

The old sensor was a mechanical sensor (physical contact).

A small steel ball was held by two springs in a small metal pipe. When the hit reached its target with sufficient force (500 g), the ball moved and closed the circuit.

Numerous problems were immediately identified:

- If the movement was perfectly linear, the ball did not touch the pipe and did not close the circuit.
- The 500 g varied depending on the springs used by the manufacturer and their age, therefore, there could be differences from one weapon to the other.
- The greater the tilt of the blade, the less the sensor worked.

With the new, inexpensive technology derived from the automotive industry, we are able to start considering the production of a new electronic sensor using MEMS.

The **MEMS (Microelectromechanical Systems)** technology is the technology of very small devices; we are talking of the nanometric scale of nanoelectromechanical systems (NEMS) and of nanotechnology.

Today, the MEMS are mainly used to detect movement inside mobile elements, for example, air bags, smartphones, GPS. In sports, they are used in tennis, golf, and baseball.

The final product will be a square with sides of approximately 25 mm and 4/6 mm thickness. It will include a battery, one or two MEMS, and electronic circuits for power supply and the MEMS. It will be easy to place in the sabre guard.

The project will have to involve a specialised company and/or a university laboratory as the 1st trial. The development phase of the software is long and complicated, as is always the case when developing low level software.

The SEMI Commission may coordinate the sports aspects of the project (specification of data to be collected, and trials on the piste).

### **STAGES OF THE PROJECT**

- ▶ Measurement of loads, limitations, speed, and energy absorbed during typical real attacks, using adapted sabres. HD video recording of attacks. Data analysis. Determining the minimum force of the hit (500 g) and possible decisions to prevent hits in certain specific directions (for example, rectilinear, with only the button).

- ▶ Selection of suitable MEMS (1 or 2). Development of a prototype and verification of the utility of output data. Development of a software to control the MEMS. Creating a sample for the performance of limited tests (10/12 trials) on the piste. Correction of any software errors.
- ▶ Resistance test with the production of 200/250 samples to be given to one nation for a period of at least 6 months (preferably an entire season). Correction and improvement of final software.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour.** The Commission agrees in principle and awaits a formal proposal from the SEMI Commission.

**Opinion of the SEMI Commission: Vote in favour** that a new sensor should be developed. The technical Criteria should be flexible enough for innovation in its development allowing several solutions to be examined. The exact figure of 500g should be ascertained by testing.

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission: Not in favour.** The commission expects more explanation and investigation to understand the motivation and reason for utilizing the new technology.

**Opinion of the Coaches Council: In favour.**

**Opinion of the Executive Committee: In favour** and awaits a formal proposal from the SEMI Commission.

## Proposals of the Refereeing Commission

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The Referees Commission is proposing follow modifications:

### Proposal 1

#### **Material Rules:**

Modification m.27.3 / m.32.4

FOIL

m.27.3.1

3. The electrical contact between the conductive jacket and the bib of the mask must be ensured by means of a white-colored or clear covered wire with two crocodile clips. The wire must be attached to the bib of the mask with one crocodile clip and to the jacket with the other. This wire must be between 30cm and 40cm long. ~~In the case of a coiled wire, the maximum length of the free cable must not exceed 25cm with a tolerance of +/- 5cm.~~ A coiled mask wire is not allowed.

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour.

**Opinion of the SEMI Commission:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Executive Committee:** In favour.

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### Proposal 2

SABRE

m.32.4

4. The **electrical contact** between the conductive jacket and the mask must be ensured by means of a wire and one or two crocodile clips. ~~In the case of a coiled cable, the maximum length of the free cable must not exceed 25 cm in length, with a tolerance of ± 5 cm.~~ A coiled mask wire is not allowed.

Reason:

This wire is covering at times during the match a considerable part of the valid target.

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour but with the same wording as for foil:

4. The electrical contact between the conductive jacket and the mask must be ensured by means of a white-colored 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 a crocodile clip. This wire must be between 30cm and 40cm long. A coiled mask wire is not allowed.

**Opinion of the SEMI Commission:** In favour.

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

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### **Proposal 3**

**Technical Rules:**

t.18.5. The order 'Halt!' is also given if the play of the competitors is **dangerous, confused, or contrary to the Rules**, if one of the competitors is **disarmed** or **steps off the piste**, or if, while retiring, he approaches too near the spectators or the Referee (cf. t.26, t.54.5 and t.73.4.j).

At foil it is forbidden, during the course of fencing, to advance the shoulder of the non-sword arm in front of the shoulder of the sword-arm (cf.t.19). Any hits scored by the fencer at fault while committing this offence will be annulled.

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour with the following wording:

**Technical Rules:**

t.18.5. The order 'Halt!' is also given if the play of the competitors is **dangerous, confused, or contrary to the Rules**, if one of the competitors is **disarmed** or **steps off the piste**, or if, while retiring, he approaches too near the spectators or the Referee (cf. t.26, t.54.5 and t.73.4.j).

At foil it is forbidden, during the course of fencing, to advance the shoulder of the non-sword arm in front of the shoulder of the sword-arm (cf.t.19). If a competitor does so he is liable to incur the penalties enumerated in Articles t.114, t.116, t.120. Any hits scored by the fencer at fault while committing this offence will be annulled.

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour with the condition of having more investigations by the referee commission to set more precise rules.

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** In favour. In this case, The Coaches Council will ask referees to look carefully at fencing actions when the distance between the fencers is reduced, especially at the situations when fencers using "corps a corps" to avoid being hit with correct repost.

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

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### **Proposal 4**

t.120 cat 1: Reversing the line of the shoulders.

Reason:

- This modification would made more lear the decisions of the referee. It is mostly a "grey zone" and an interpretation whether the non-sword arm is covering the valid target.
- If the fencer is turning in the non-sword shoulder so in same time is not more visibly by the camera what he is doing with his non-sword hand.

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Executive Committee:** In favour.

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## Deferred Proposals

### 1. Deferred proposal of the Hungarian Fencing Federation

#### **Motivation:**

*It is merely a clarification of an existing rule, more precisely that the fencer must not be penalised by one meter unless he crosses the lateral boundaries of the piste with two feet.*

#### **t. 17.9**

The return on guard, at a distance, for a **lateral exit of the two feet** may place the opponent committing the error on the other side of the rear line and lead to a hit.

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**Opinion of the working group 2015 (Rules, Refereeing, Promotion Commissions, Coaches Council, Athletes Commission) in charge of reviewing the proposal deferred in 2014:**

The text proposed by the Rules Commission in English is preferable, but the English text will have to be adapted for application in French. The new French text proposed is the following:

**If a fencer crosses the lateral boundaries of the piste, with one or two feet, he must be placed on guard at the correct distance, even if this means that he is placed behind the rear line and causes a hit to be awarded against him. (cf t.28, t.102).**

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** is not necessary because current rules are clear.

**Opinion of the Promotion and Publicity Commission:** In favour with amendment:

**If a fencer completely crosses the lateral boundaries of the piste, with one or two feet, he must be placed on guard at the correct distance, even if this means that he is placed behind the rear line and causes a hit to be awarded against him. (cf t.28, t.102).**

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour of the proposal of the working group with the following wording in French and English:

**If a fencer crosses the lateral boundaries of the piste, with one or both feet, he must be placed on guard at the correct distance, even if this means that he is placed behind the rear line and thus causes a hit to be awarded against him. (cf t.28, t.102).**

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** In favour.

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

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## **2. Deferred proposal of the Russian Fencing Federation**

### **Motivation:**

*Reducing the number of simultaneous attacks for sabre. Increasing the number of actions in order to make matches more spectacular.*

#### **t.17.**

1. For foil and épée, ~~the~~**The Referee places** each of the two competitors in such a way that the front foot of each is 2 metres from the centre line of the piste (that is, behind the 'on-guard' lines).

2. For sabre, the referee places each of the two competitors in such a way that the back foot of each is 2 m from the centre line of the piste (that is, in front of the "on-guard" lines).

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**Opinion of the working group 2015 (Rules, Refereeing, Promotion Commissions, Coaches Council, Athletes Commission) in charge of reviewing the proposal deferred in 2014:**

The object of this proposal is to reduce simultaneous attacks at sabre. An ad hoc commission must be nominated by the Executive Committee as soon as possible, with the task to obtain statistics regarding simultaneous attacks during the rest of the 2015-16 season.

The working group is in favour of the proposal to organise tests, by introducing the rules proposed by the Russian Federation as temporary rules for all categories at sabre, men and women, during the period from the start of the 2016-2017 season until 31 December 2016.

The ad hoc commission will study the tests through comparisons with the statistics from the previous season. It will deliver its opinion at the end of 2016 to the Executive Committee, which will decide if the rule will be applied for the rest of the 2016-17 season.

*The correct numbering of the articles in the proposal is t.17.2.a and t.17.2.b*

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** Not in favour.

**Opinion of the Promotion and Publicity Commission:** Not in favour.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** Not in favour. The new sensor should be introduced before any more reforms are tried in sabre.

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission: Not in favour.** The commission thinks that making a closer distance would not directly lead to the effect of reducing simultaneous actions, and rather wishes to define attacks clearly for referees with consistent judgement.

**Opinion of the Coaches Council: In favour.**

**Opinion of the Executive Committee: In favour of the opinion of the working group:** The working group is in favour of the proposal to organise tests, by introducing the rules proposed by the Russian Federation as temporary rules for all categories at sabre, men and women, during the period from the start of the 2016-2017 season until 31 December 2016.

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### **3. Deferred proposals of the Swedish Fencing Federation**

#### **Adjustment of calculation procedure for individual and teams world ranking during the year following the Olympic Games (o.83 and o.84)**

##### **Motivation:**

*Participation in the Olympic Games is very limited. However, the multiplying factor for points attributed during the Olympic Games is of 3 for the individual competition and 2 for the teams competition (World Cup: 1; Grand Prix: 1.5; and World Championships: 2). This leads to an imbalance in the world rankings during the year following the Olympic Games, which is not corrected prior to the next World Championship, which can have even more lasting consequences on the ranking.*

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##### **Opinion of the working group 2015 (Rules, Refereeing, Promotion Commissions, Coaches Council, Athletes Commission) in charge of reviewing the proposal deferred in 2014:**

The working group recognises that there is a problem with the official FIE rankings during the season following the Olympic Games. In particular, in all Olympic teams competition participation is very low, which gives too much protection to participating teams and causes immobility in the rankings during the season following the Games.

The intention of the proposal formulated by the Swedish Federation to find a solution to this problem has also been mentioned by the Athletes Commission. However, the Athletes Council and the working group do not consider it appropriate to entirely cancel the results of the Games in the rankings of the new season.

The working group proposes that the multipliers be adjusted in order to reduce the consequences of the limited participation to the Games, and to improve the initial rankings of the competitions during the new season following the Olympic Games. The opinion of the working group is that the following multipliers are suitable:

The group proposes the following text in the Rules:

##### **o.83.2 Individual ranking**

##### **b) The different competitions are attributed the following multipliers**

<b>Competition</b>	<b>Individual competitions</b>
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Olympic Games	2
World Championships	2
Grand Prix	1.5
Zonal Championships	1
World Cup	1

~~b) Points obtained in an individual A Grade World Cup competition have a multiplying factor of 1.~~

~~c) Points obtained in a Grand Prix competition of the FIE and a Zonal Championship are multiplied by a factor of 1.5.~~

~~d) Points obtained in the individual events of the Senior World Championships and in the Junior World Championships are multiplied by a factor of 2.5.~~

~~c) e) Points obtained in the individual events of the Olympic Games are multiplied by a factor of 3.0.~~ At the **Olympic Games**, the 4<sup>th</sup> is awarded ~~54~~ **36** points.

~~d) f)~~ Only fencers who have **actually participated** in a direct elimination table can receive any points.

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: Not in favour.**

**Opinion of the Promotion and Publicity Commission: In favour.**

**Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour** with the following change: The multiplier for individual zonal championships should be 1,5.

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission: In favour.**

**Opinion of the Coaches Council: In favour.**

**Opinion of the Executive Committee: Not in favour.**

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#### **4. Deferred proposal of the Swedish Fencing Federation**

##### **o.84.2 Team scale of points**

b) The different competitions are attributed the following multipliers

<b>Competition</b>	<b>Multiplier</b>
Olympic Games	1.5

World Championships	1.5
Zonal Championships	1
World Cup	1

b) For the World Team Championships, the points indicated above are multiplied by two.

c) Points obtained in a Zonal Team Championship have a factor of 1.0.

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** Not in favour.

**Opinion of the Promotion and Publicity Commission:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour (by majority). The discussion was divided into "in favor" and "not in favor" by the members as some of the continents would lose much scores by changing multipliers.

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Executive Committee:** Not in favour.

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## 5. Deferred proposal of the Swedish Fencing Federation

Creating a cycle for the Olympic programme, based on the principle of gender equality and equality between the different weapons (o.48.1)

**Motivation:**

*The situation in which there are ten gold medals attributed to fencing at the Olympic Games continues since 2004, and there is no sign that the number of medals will increase. To this day, the Congress has taken decisions in what regards the Olympic programme three years in advance (for example, in November 2013 for the Olympic Games in Rio in 2016). It is clearly too late to allow athletes and national federations to prepare and plan their activities in a structured manner.*

*Consequently, it is desirable to clearly establish in our rules the Olympic programme cycle, in order to ensure stability and equity between the genders and the different weapons.*

*The Swedish Fencing Federation proposes the continuation of the cycle applied for the Olympic Games in Beijing, London, and Rio de Janeiro.*

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**Opinion of the working group 2015 (Rules, Refereeing, Promotion Commissions, Coaches Council, Athletes Commission) in charge of reviewing the proposal deferred in 2014:**

The working group is in favour of the proposal, but there seems to have been a misunderstanding concerning the structure of the proposed cycle. This proposal provides balance between the weapons and the genders in the current situation, even if it is very important to obtain two additional medals. The working group proposes the following cycle:

**Programme of competitions**

**o.48**

1. The programme of fencing events at the **Olympic Games** currently comprises 10 events. Given that the situation does not allow for organising 12 events, the programme of team events at the Olympic Games varies so that two weapons per team are not included during each Olympic year. For events not included in the Olympic programme, the FIE will organise World Championships.

The team competitions cycle at the Olympic Games will be:

Olympic Games 2016: Men's foil, men's épée, women's épée, women's sabre. (In the case of women's foil and men's sabre, the FIE will organise World Championships.)

Olympic Games 2020: Women's foil, men's épée, women's sabre, men's sabre. (In the case of men's foil and women's épée, the FIE will organise World Championships.)

Olympic Games 2024: Women's foil, men's foil, women's épée, men's sabre. (In the case of women's sabre and men's épée, the FIE will organise World Championships.)

The cycle described above is continued for the following Olympic Games (2028, 2032, ...)

Any change to the above cycle or to the number of events must be approved by the Congress.

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission: In favour.**

**Opinion of the Promotion and Publicity Commission: In favour.**

**Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour.**

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission: In favour.**

**Opinion of the Coaches Council: In favour.**

**Opinion of the Executive Committee: Not in favour.**

## Proposals from the Veterans Council to the Executive Committee

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### Proposal 1

o.87

1. The organisers must submit the programme of events to the Executive Committee for its approval.
2. The programme must be arranged in such a way to allow any fencer to participate to all weapons and team events must be held on a day following the championships of the three categories of each weapon.
3. No changes of days are allowed for each competition, after the release of the programme.
4. Each competition must be held in one single day, possibly avoiding long inactive time along the progress of it.

### Opinion of the Veterans Council:

o.87

1. The organisers must submit the programme of events to the Executive Committee for its approval.
2. The programme must be arranged in such a way to allow any fencer to participate to all weapons. Team events must be held on the day following the last championship of the three categories of each weapon.
3. No changes of days are allowed for each competition, after the release of the programme.
4. Each competition must be held in one single day, avoiding long inactive time along the progress of it.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour of the proposal with the following wording (identical to the opinion of the Veteran Council).

**Opinion of the Executive Committee:** In favour of the proposal as modified by the Rules Commission and Veterans Council.

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### Proposal 2

o.88 Entries for competitions

1. Entries must be sent to the organisers by the competitors' national federation. Numerical entries shall be sent not later than one month before the beginning of the championships; entries by names not later than two weeks before.
2. However, until two days before the competition at noon (local time), fencers may be added by their national federation after payment to the Organizing Committee of a penalty equal to 50 % of the registration fee.
3. Entries for team championships must be forwarded to the Directoire technique not later than 4.00 pm (local time) of the day before the competition.

### **Opinion of the Veterans Council:**

o.88 Entries for competitions

1. Entries must be sent to the organisers by the competitors' national federation. [Entries shall be sent not later than one month before the beginning of the championships.](#)
2. However, until two days before the competition at noon (local time), fencers may be added by their national federation after payment to the Organizing Committee of a penalty equal to [100 % of the registration fee.](#)
3. Entries for team championships must be forwarded to the Directoire [Technique](#) not later than 4.00 pm (local time) of the day before the competition.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** : In favour of the proposal with the following wording (identical to the opinion of the Veteran Council).

**Opinion of the Executive Committee:** In favour of the proposal as modified by the Rules Commission and Veterans Council.

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### **Proposal 3**

o.89

At the Veterans World Championships, entries for the individual events are limited to four fencers in each category per gender, per weapon and per nation. [The names must be consistent with FIE licences.](#)

**Opinion of the Veterans Council:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour.

**Opinion of the Executive Committee:** In favour of the proposal as modified by the Rules Commission and Veterans Council.

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### **Proposal 4**

o.90 Composition of the pools [for individual championships](#)

When drawing the pools, the Directoire Technique will take into account the following orders of strength:

1. The [64](#) highest [ranked from the addition of the results in the two last years Championships](#), irrespective of age category changes;
2. The [64](#) highest ranked in the last Zone championships, irrespective of age Category changes, if available; [the order of Zones is based on the number of athletes of each category present in the last World Championship from each Zone.](#)
3. All other fencers in order of age, starting from the youngest.

4. The allocation of fencers in the pools must be made in such a way as to place fencers of the same nationality, as far as possible, in different pools, by moving them down the ranking as necessary.
5. If in any category there are fewer than ten competitors, the competition is held as a poule unique.
6. If in any category there are fewer than 6 competitors, they will fence with an adjacent age category. A separate ranking for this category will be extrapolated from the other category at the end of the competition.
7. If in any category there is only one competitor, the event in that category is cancelled.
8. **No fencer is eliminated after the poules, all enter into direct elimination.**

#### o.91 Duration of the matches

The direct elimination bouts are for 10 hits or end when two periods of three minutes, with one minute rest between the periods, have passed. As an exception, at sabre,

the first period ends either at the expiry of the three minutes or when one of the fencers has scored five hits.

#### **Opinion of the Veterans Council:**

#### o.90 Composition of the pools [for individual championships](#)

When drawing the pools, the Directoire Technique will take into account the following orders of strength:

1. The **64** highest [ranked from the addition of the results in the two last years](#) Championships, irrespective of age category changes;
2. All other fencers in order of age, starting from the youngest.
3. The allocation of fencers in the pools must be made in such a way as to place fencers of the same nationality, as far as possible, in different pools, by moving them down the ranking as necessary.
4. If in any category there are fewer than ten competitors, the competition is held as a poule unique [plus direct elimination](#).
5. If in any category there are fewer than **6** competitors, they [will](#) fence with [the lower](#) age category. A separate ranking for this category will be extrapolated from the [combined categories final rankings at the end of the competition](#).
6. If in any category there is only one competitor, the event in that category is cancelled.
7. **No fencer is eliminated after the poules, all enter into direct elimination.**

#### o.91 Duration of the matches

The direct elimination bouts are for 10 hits or end when two periods of three minutes, with one minute rest between the periods, have passed. As an exception, at sabre, the first period ends either at the expiry of the three minutes or when one of the fencers has scored five hits.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission: In favour** of the proposal with the following wording (identical to the opinion of the Veteran Council).

**Opinion of the Executive Committee:** In favour of the proposal as modified by the Rules Commission and Veterans Council.

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## **Proposal 5**

o.92. Team championships

### **1. Participation**

Each country can enter one team per sex and per weapon, thus giving place to 6 competitions.

**2.** The rules for team championships are applicable with the following exceptions:

**3.** For each weapon, the teams are constituted by three fencers of the same nationality, one from category "A", one "B" and one "C" with or without one reserve for each category. A team cannot begin the match if it is not complete.

**4.** In the case of a team being short of one fencer in a weapon the team may use a fencer who has competed in the individual championships at another weapon or that did not participate in the individual championships, but his/her ranking will be deemed to be the last ranking at that weapon plus 1.

**5.** The teams are placed in the poules according to the ranking of the three fencers in the individual championship, the highest place for those having the lowest total. Fencers that did not participate to the individual championship are ranked with the worst result plus 1.

**6.** Each team may ask to substitute a fencer before the start of the bout, except in case of injury duly recognized by the Medical delegate, when the substitution can be immediate. There can be only one replacement per match.

**7.** The fencer who has been replaced because of an injury may not fence again during that match.

If both a fencer and the reserve, if any, are forced to retire, or if a fencer is excluded, their team has lost the match.

**8.** The relay system is always applied. The three fencers of a team fence against the opponent of the same category. Each fencer fences twice his/her opponent for a total of 6 bouts. The bouts are for 5 hits (5-10-15-20- etc.); the maximum time for each bout is 3 minutes.

**9.** The team that first reaches the maximum score of 30 hits, or that which has scored the greatest number of hits after the expiry of regular time, is the winner.

**10.** The order of categories for each match is established by drawing lots with the presence of the team captain.

**11.** The competition consists of a round of poules of 3 or 4 teams, in which all the teams participate, and a direct elimination phase for a maximum of 16 teams, the other teams will be classified according to their place after the round of poules.

**12.** If there are 3, 4 teams: the teams fence in a poule unique only and the ranking is as indicated in art. o.19, without direct elimination. If there are 5 teams, after an unique poule, a match for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> places is held, then a match for the first place between the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## **Opinion of the Veterans Council:**

o.92. Team championships

## 1. Participation

Each country can enter one team per gender and per weapon, thus giving place to 6 competitions.

2. The rules for team championships are applicable with the following exceptions:

**a)** For each weapon, the teams are constituted by three fencers of the same nationality, one from category "A", one "B" and one "C" with or without one reserve for each category. A team cannot begin the match if it is not complete.

**b)** In the case of a team being short of a fencer in a weapon the team may use a fencer who has competed in the individual championships at another weapon, but his/her ranking will be deemed to be the last ranking at that weapon plus 1.

**c)** The teams are placed in the poules according to the ranking of the three fencers in the individual championship, the highest place for those having the lowest total. All the fencers registered for the team event must be present at the piste before the start of the match.

**d)** Each team may ask to substitute a fencer before the start of the bout, except in case of injury duly recognized by the Medical delegate, when the substitution can be immediate. There can be only one replacement per match.

3. The fencer who has been replaced because of an injury may not fence again during that match. If both a fencer and the reserve, if any, are forced to retire, or if a fencer is excluded, their team has lost the match.

4. The relay system is always applied. The three fencers of a team fence against the opponent of the same category. Each fencer fences twice his/her opponent for a total of 6 bouts. The bouts are for 5 hits (5-10-15-20- etc.); the maximum time for each bout is 3 minutes.

5. The team that first reaches the maximum score of 30 hits, or that which has scored the greatest number of hits after the expiry of regular time, is the winner.

6. The order of categories for each match is established by the referee with the captains on the piste prior to the match starting: The referee will "toss a coin" and the winning captain will select the first category in the order. The losing captain will select the second category.

8. The competition consists of a round of poules of 3 or 4 teams, in which all the teams participate, and a direct elimination phase for a maximum of 16 teams, the other teams will be classified according to their place after the round of poules.

9. If there are less than 6 teams, after an unique poule, a match for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> places is held, then a match for the first place between the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour of the proposal with the following wording (identical to the opinion of the Veteran Council):

**Opinion of the Executive Committee:** In favour of the proposal as modified by the Rules Commission and Veterans Council.

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## Proposal 6

### o.93 Referees

Refereeing Veteran World Championships is carried out by referees appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE, selected by the Refereeing Commission on indication of the Organizing Committee. Fifteen of them shall be of at least eight different nationalities, being no more than two of each nationality; the other necessary referees shall be from the

organizing country. In case of unavailability of sufficient national referees, they will be chosen by the Organizing Committee from nearby countries.

Referees' travel and board and lodging costs are paid by the organising committee who in return will receive all the entry fees, as stated in art. 6.2 of Administration Rules.

Participating countries must notify at least one month in advance whether they will either bring the required number of referees or pay the penalty, in order to allow enough time to the organizers to recruit other referees.

Referees must attend the refereeing meeting that takes place the day before the World Championships.

### **Opinion of the Veterans Council:**

#### **o.93 Referees**

Refereeing Veteran World Championships is carried out by referees appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE, selected by the Refereeing Commission on indication of the Organizing Committee. Fifteen of them shall be of at least eight different nationalities, being no more than two of each nationality; the other necessary referees shall be from the organizing country. In case of unavailability of sufficient national referees, they will be chosen by the Organizing Committee from nearby countries.

Referees' travel and board and lodging costs are paid by the organising committee who in return will receive all the entry fees, as stated in art. 6.2 of Administration Rules.

~~Participating countries must notify at least one month in advance whether they will either bring the required number of referees or pay the penalty, in order to allow enough time to the organizers to recruit other referees.~~

Referees must attend the refereeing meeting that takes place the day before the World Championships.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour of the proposal with the following wording (identical to the opinion of the Veteran Council).

**Opinion of the Executive Committee:** In favour of the proposal as modified by the Rules Commission and Veterans Council.

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### **Proposal 7**

#### **o.94 Invitations for international officials**

1. Any proposed candidature for organising the World Championships must be studied at the venue concerned by a delegate designated by the Executive Committee, at the invitation of the candidate federation.

2. The organising committee of the World Championships, who will receive all the entry fees from the participating delegations, must, at their own expense, invite the following international officials (tourist-class return air fare, accommodation and daily allowances):

a) The President of the FIE or his representative, who presides over the World Championships and, in particular, controls the smooth running of the Directoire Technique.

b) **Four** members of the Directoire Technique appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE, one of whom must belong to the organising country.

c) One member of the SEMI Committee, appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE.

d) One member of the Refereeing Committee, appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE.

e) One member of the Medical Committee, appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE.

#### **Opinion of the Veterans Council:**

##### **o.94** Invitations for international officials

1. Any proposed candidature for organising the World Championships must be studied at the venue concerned by a delegate designated by the Executive Committee, at the invitation of the candidate federation.

2. The organising committee of the World Championships, who will receive all the entry fees from the participating delegations, must, at their own expense, invite the following international officials (tourist-class return air fare, accommodation and daily allowances):

a) The President of the FIE or his representative, who presides over the World Championships and, in particular, controls the smooth running of the Directoire Technique.

b) **Four** members of the Directoire Technique appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE, one of whom must belong to the organising country.

c) One member of the SEMI Committee, appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE.

d) One member of the Refereeing Committee, appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE.

e) One member of the Medical Committee, appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE.

**These officials shall preferably be selected from the same Zone of the Championships.**

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour of the proposal with the following wording (identical to the opinion of the Veteran Council).

**Opinion of the Executive Committee:** In favour of the proposal as modified by the Rules Commission and Veterans Council.

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## **Proposal 8**

### **HANDBOOK OF REGULATIONS**

#### **1.2 DESIGNATION AND EXPENSES**

The Organisation Committee will pay for the expenses of the President of the FIE or his representative (plane ticket in economy class, lodging and per diem), in accordance with article [o.89](#) of the FIE Organisation Rules.

#### Officials

According to financial arrangements stipulated in Chapter 7 of the Administrative Rules of the FIE, the following officials are designated by the Executive Committee of the FIE and reimbursed by the organisers:

- three (3) members of the Directoire technique, including ~~one~~ [two](#) of the host country;
- one (1) delegate of the Refereeing Commission;
- one (1) delegate of the SEMI Commission;
- one (1) delegate of the Medical Commission.

[These officials shall preferably be selected from the same Zone of the Championships.](#)

#### **Opinion of the Veterans Council:**

### HANDBOOK OF REGULATIONS

#### 1.2 DESIGNATION AND EXPENSES

The Organisation Committee will pay for the expenses of the President of the FIE or his representative (plane ticket in economy class, lodging and per diem), in accordance with article [o.89](#) of the FIE Organisation Rules.

#### Officials

According to financial arrangements stipulated in Chapter 7 of the Administrative Rules of the FIE, the following officials are designated by the Executive Committee of the FIE and reimbursed by the organisers:

- [four](#) (4) members of the Directoire technique, including [one from](#) the host country;
- one (1) delegate of the Refereeing Commission;
- one (1) delegate of the SEMI Commission;
- one (1) delegate of the Medical Commission.

[These officials shall preferably be selected from the same Zone of the Championships.](#)

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour of the proposal with the following wording (identical to the opinion of the Veteran Council).

**Opinion of the Executive Committee:** In favour of the proposal as modified by the Rules Commission and Veterans Council.