

Change of IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Rules

Introduction date: April 1st, 2013

(Changes to the last version of the IWF rules marked in blue)

m.62 Aprons

The conductive apron belongs to the fencer's equipment in epee fencing and has to be "material tested" before every official IWF competition.

The ground cable connecting the apron with apparatus or conductive piste has to be provided by the organizers of the competition.

To cover the non-valid area in epee fencing, conductive aprons are needed which must satisfy the following conditions:

- a) The lamé material of the aprons is the same as used for conductive jackets. Therefore it must have the same characteristics regarding electrical resistance, etc. (cf. m.28.3, m.28.5a-c).
- b) The apron must cover the non-valid area as described in t.62. In "En garde!" position it has to touch the piste to make sure that no valid hit can be made at the feet or the lower parts of the wheelchair and fencing platform.
- c) It must ensure that it will not loosen during the bout. On the other hand it must not restrict the fencer's movements.
- d) The apron must be earthed by a ground cable to the apparatus or the conductive piste.
- e) The **printing of the nationality** (abbreviation – official 3 letter code) onto the apron is **mandatory**. The following are the specifications:

The nationality has to be printed directly onto the apron, or onto a piece of conductive lamé material carefully sewn onto the apron.

The letters must be in dark blue, in capitals (block upper case font), between 8 cm and 10 cm high, and between 1 cm and 1.5 cm wide.

In "En garde!" position the printing has to be readable. Its position on the bottom side of the apron has to be between 10 cm and 20 cm above the piste, horizontally centered across the width of the apron.

The printed nationality has to correspond with the nationality of the fencer using it.

- f) No advertising is allowed on the apron. Only the manufacturer's label can be placed on it in a non-conductive area (eg. belt).

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4. Every fencer must appear on the piste with clothing conforming to the rules as follows:

a) Name and nationality [on the back of the jacket and nationality on the bottom side of the apron \(epee fencing\), in accordance with the rules](#). Application: all official IWF competitions, at all stages of the competitions.

b) Wearing his national uniform (cf. m.25.3). Application as follows:

i) Paralympic Games, World and Zonal Championships: all bouts, whether in a pool, in the direct elimination or during a team match;

ii) World Cup competitions: all bouts in individual and team events.

In case of violation of this rule:

- For the competitions mentioned in item i) above, the Referee shall eliminate the fencer at fault, and he will not be allowed to participate further in the event.

- For the competitions mentioned in item ii) above, the Referee shall penalize the fencer at fault with a Red Card (Articles t.114, t.117, t.120, Second Group). The fencer at fault shall however be allowed to remain on the piste and fence the bout concerned.

The same penalty is also applied for the absence of name and nationality [on the back of the jacket and absence of nationality on the bottom side of the apron, in accordance with the rules, at Junior World Cup competitions, Junior World and Zonal Championships](#).

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

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