

IWF RULES FOR COMPETITIONS

BOOK 2. ORGANISATION RULES

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BOOK 2. ORGANISATION RULES

REMARK: Throughout the Rulebook

- **IWF** stands for **IWAS Wheelchair Fencing**
- **IWF EC** stands for **IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Executive Committee**
- words importing singular number or masculine gender shall include the plural number or feminine gender, as the case may be, and vice versa

CHAPTER 1. COMPETITIONS

- o.1.** The official competitions of the IWF are organised according to the following rules.
- o.2.**
 1. The official competitions of the IWF are open to fencers (individual or team) of all IWAS member countries.
 2. Every competitor or participant in a competition, irrespective of his status, is required to be classified and must be eligible to compete (cf. Book 4. Classification).

CHAPTER 2. BODIES RESPONSIBLE FOR ORGANISATION AND CONTROL

The Organising Committee

- o.3.** The Organising Committee is the group of persons responsible for organising the competition.

The IWF Executing Committee

- o.4.** The IWF Executing Committee (IWF EC) and its delegate(s) controls the activities of the Directoire Technique at the Paralympic Games, World and Regional Championships, World Cups and IWAS Games, as described in Article o.63.

The Directoire Technique

- o.5.** The technical organisation of competitions is entrusted to a Directoire Technique, the functions and scope of whose activities are described in the Rules (cf. t.97, o.56–62).

Auxiliary personnel

- o.6.** The organising committee will appoint:
 - 1. Help Assistance for frames, scorers and time-keepers**

The organisers will appoint helping staff for assisting the fencers in entering the fencing frames and to fix the wheelchair into the frames.

Also the organisers will appoint, on their own responsibility, scorers whose duty it will be to keep the score-sheet for the bout, the pool or the match and maintain the score-boards, and a time-keeper whose duty it will be to keep time for the duration of the bouts (cf. t.30ss).

For finals, the Directoire Technique may appoint a delegate or a referee, neutral wherever possible, to supervise the time-keeper, the scorer and the person responsible for the scoring apparatus.

2. Superintendents of the apparatus

- a) The Organising Committee must choose qualified persons, who pay careful attention to the signals given by the apparatus in order that they may be able to advise the Referee as to what the apparatus has registered, and warn him, even during the course of a bout, as to any abnormal phenomena which may occur.
- b) The superintendent of the apparatus must not touch the apparatus while fencing is in progress. When fencing ceases, he re-sets the apparatus either after the Referee has given his decision or when the competitors are testing their weapons; but he must never, after a phase of the bout has caused the apparatus to signal a hit, annul this signal before the Referee has given his decision.

3. Experts

- a) For each tournament, the Organising Committee must appoint experts in matters relating to the electrical apparatus. These experts are placed under the supervision of the Directoire Technique.
- b) The experts may be consulted, separately or conjointly, by the referees or by the Directoire Technique regarding all questions relating to the electrical apparatus.

4. Repairers

For each tournament, the Organising Committee must ensure the presence of competent repairers to remedy faults in the electrical apparatus and, possibly, in the personal electrical equipment of the fencers.

Checking of equipment

- o.7.** The checking of the organisers' equipment, as well as the equipment of the fencers, must be carried out in accordance with the rules to be found in the Material Rules.

CHAPTER 3. ENTRIES FOR COMPETITIONS

o.8. GENERAL REGULATIONS

1. For Paralympics, World and Zonal Championships, entries must be sent to the organisers by the competitors' national federation (for the Paralympic Games by their National Paralympic Committee).

For World Cup Competitions, fencers wishing to register in these competitions should do so through the corresponding National Federations or Associations responsible for Wheelchair Fencing that is a member of IWAS. At World Cup Competitions there is no limitation to the number of entries and fencers must be registered with the following information: Name, Family name, Category, Date of Birth, Nation, Club, and events entered.

2. A fencer without an official medical classification is not allowed to participate in an IWF competition. The placing of competitors within each category is strictly according to the decision of the official classifiers authorities who have examined and classified each competitor before the competition.
3. An athlete may participate in a maximum of two types of events (epee/foil/saber), which must be the same in individual and the team events.
4. No competitor may appear in a category lower than that in which he has been placed by those authorities. (e.g. category A fencer cannot compete in a category B event).

A fencer may decide to fence in a higher category (e.g. category B fencer in category A event), provided that they state their decision on entry and compete only in that category through-out all the fencing events in this tournament.

5. At least six fencers from four IWAS countries will have to participate for the said event to be considered an official „World Championship Event“, „Regional Championship Event“ or „World Cup Event“. In the case of less than six fencers, categories can be pooled to one event.

CHAPTER 4. TIMETABLE

- o.9.
 1. The programme should be arranged in such a way that no fencer is obliged to participate in events for more than 12 hours in 24. In any case, no pool, bout or match may begin after midnight, or at any time when it can be foreseen that there is a likelihood that it will end after midnight.
 2. Whatever programme is adopted, the final should start at a time which, having regard to local routines, will ensure that the results can be communicated to the media in sufficient time to allow them to be published.
 3. In their timetable the organisers must allow sufficient time for it to be possible to carry out the checking of the fencers' equipment, i.e. a minimum of one day per weapon.
- o.10. The first round of all the individual and team competitions for the World Championships and Paralympic Games must be displayed by 4 p.m. at the latest the day before the competition (cf. t.123).

CHAPTER 5. INDIVIDUAL COMPETITIONS

- o.11.** Individual competitions are organised consisting of at least one round of eliminating pools, followed by a main direct (that may be incomplete) elimination table of 32 or 64 fencers without repechage.

GENERAL RULES FOR THE ROUND OF POOLS

- o.12.** The number of pools should be chosen in a way that
1. The number of fencers within a pool should be chosen as high as possible but must not exceed 7 fencers.
 2. The difference of fencers' number between pools but must not exceed 1.

Composition of pools

- o.13.**
1. Except where there are contrary provisions in these Rules, the pools are composed taking account of the latest official ~~FIE~~ IWF ranking and by drawing lots among any fencers who are not in the ranking or equally ranked.
 2. The allocation of fencers in the pools must be made in such a way as to place fencers of the same nationality in different pools, as far as possible.
 3. The order of fencers on the pool sheet is decided by drawing lots.
 4. The pools must be fenced up to the last bout.
- o.14.** The order of bouts in the pools is as follows:

1. Pools on 1 piste

Pool of 3 fencers	Pool of 4 fencers	Pool of 5 fencers
1-2	1-2	↓ 1-2 ↓ 3-5
2-3	2-3	2-3 5-2
3-1	3-4	3-4 2-4
	4-1	4-5 4-1
	1-3	5-1
	2-4	1-3

Pool of 6 fencers		Pool of 7 fencers		
↓ 1-2	↓ 5-2	↓ 1-2	↓ 3-5	↓ 3-6
2-3	2-4	2-3	5-2	6-2
3-4	4-6	3-4	2-4	2-7
4-5	5-1	4-5	4-6	7-4
5-6	1-4	5-6	6-1	4-1
6-1	2-6	6-7	1-5	
1-3	6-3	7-1	5-7	
3-5		1-3	7-3	

2. Pools on 2 pistes

Pool of 4 fencers		Pool of 5 fencers		Pool of 6 fencers		Pool of 7 fencers	
P1	P2	P1	P2	P1	P2	P1	P2
1-2	3-4	1-2	4-5	1-2	3-4	1-2	4-5
2-4	3-1	2-3	4-1	2-5	3-6	2-3	4-6
4-1	3-2	3-4	1-5	5-1	6-4	3-7	6-1
		4-2	5-3	1-3	4-2	7-2	1-5
		2-5	3-1	3-5	2-6	2-4	5-6
				5-4	6-1	4-3	6-7
				4-1	<i>break</i>	3-1	7-5
				2-3	6-5	1-4	5-2
						4-7	2-6
						7-1	6-3
							3-5

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 o.14 above, in order to obviate excessive fatigue or delays for the competitors who form the minority in the pool.

3. When competitors classed as 'stateless' are included in a pool, they must first fence against the competitors of the nationality to which they originally belonged, after the latter have fenced each other, and thereafter against the competitors of the country which grants them their international fencing licence.
- o.16.**
1. If a bout in a pool is interrupted by an accidental cause, and this interruption is likely to be prolonged, the Referee may (with the consent of the Directoire Technique, or possibly the Organising Committee) alter the order of bouts in such a way as to allow the normal progress of the competition to proceed.
 2. The time allowed for a fencer to rest between two consecutive bouts in a pool is three minutes.
- o.17.** In the pools a bout ends when:
1. a) One of the fencers has scored 5 hits. In this case the score registered on the score-sheet is the final score of the bout ($V5 - Dn$, where n = the number of hits scored by the losing fencer).
 - b) At épée, if the two fencers reach a score of 4–all, they must fence for a deciding hit, up to the time limit. Any double hit will not be counted (and the fencers will therefore remain where they are on the piste).
 2. Three minutes of effective fencing time have passed. (There is no warning for the last minute.)
 - a) If when the time limit expires there is a difference of at least one hit between the scores of the two fencers, the fencer who has scored the greater number of hits is declared winner. The score registered on the score-sheet is the actual score achieved in the bout ($VN - Dn$, where N = the number of hits scored by the winning fencer and n = the number of hits scored by the losing fencer).
 - b) If at the end of regulation time the scores are equal, the fencers fence for a deciding hit, with a maximum time limit of one minute. Before the fencing recommences, the Referee draws lots to decide who will be the winner if scores are still equal at the end of the extra minute.
 - c) In this case the score registered on the score-sheet is always the actual score achieved in the bout:
 - $VN - Dn$ if a deciding hit is scored within the time limit for the bout.
 - $V4 - D4$ or $V3 - D3$ or $V2 - D2$ or $V1 - D1$ or $V0 - D0$ if the winner is designated by drawing lots.
- o.18.** Before the competition starts, the Directoire Technique will decide on and announce the number of fencers who will be eliminated based on the general index.
- At Paralympics, World and Zonal Championships, this number may not be lower than 20% nor higher than 30% of the total number of participants in the pools.
- At World Cups, the elimination rate must not exceed 20% and will be chosen in a way to form at least a complete tableau of 16 fencers. If the number of participants

in an event is equal to or less than 16 fencers, no fencer will be eliminated in the qualification round of pools.

- o.19.** 1. After the pools, a single general ranking will be established of all the fencers who have taken part in the pools, taking account, successively, of the indices V/M , $HS - HR$, HS .
- (V = victories; M = bouts; HS = hits scored; HR = hits received.)
2. A summary classification table shall then be made in the following way:
- The results written up on the summary table will be added up to ascertain the two indices required.
 - The first index, for the initial classification, shall be obtained by dividing the number of victories by the number of bouts fought, using the formula V/M .
 - The fencer with the highest index (maximum 1) will be seeded first.
 - In cases of equality in this first index, and to separate fencers with equal first indices, a second index will be established, using the formula $HS - HR$, the difference between the total number of hits scored and hits received.
 - In cases of equality of the two indices V/M and $HS - HR$, the fencer who has scored most hits will be seeded highest.
 - In cases of absolute equality between two or more fencers, their seeding order will be decided by drawing lots.
3. Should there be absolute equality among the last to qualify there will not be a barrage, and the fencers with equal indicators will all qualify, even if they are in excess of the number decided on.

Withdrawal

- o.20.** A fencer who withdraws, or who is excluded, is scratched from the pool, and his results are annulled as if he had not taken part.

GENERAL RULES FOR DIRECT ELIMINATION

- o.21.** The direct elimination table (bout plan) is established taking account of the classification table and the special rules for each competition (see Figure 7a). The principle of protection of nationality will not be applied.
- o.22.** The organisers of a competition must publish the direct elimination bout plan, showing on it the scheduled time for each bout from the table of 64 or 32 onwards.
- o.23.** 1. The direct elimination bouts are for 15 hits or end when the three periods of three minutes, with a one-minute rest between each period, 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 eight hits.
2. During the one-minute rests a person, named before the bout, may have access to the fencer.
3. A clock, incorporated into the electrical scoring apparatus, blocks the latter at the end of each period.
- o.24.** 1. The bout ends when:

- One of the fencers has scored 15 hits; or
 - 9 minutes of effective fencing time have passed.
2. The fencer who has scored the greater number of hits is declared the winner.
 3. If at the end of regulation time the scores are equal, the fencers fence for a deciding hit, with a maximum time limit of one minute. Before the fencing recommences the Referee draws lots to decide who will be the winner if scores are still equal at the end of the extra minute.
 4. In this case the score recorded on the score-sheet is the real score achieved in the bout.

Withdrawal

- o.25.** When, for whatever reason, a fencer cannot fence, or cannot complete his bout, his opponent is declared winner of that bout. A fencer who withdraws does not lose his place in the overall classification of the competition.

Order of bouts

- o.26.**
 1. In each round of the direct elimination table (64, 32, 16, 8 or 4), the bouts are always called in the order of the bout plan, starting at the top and ending at the bottom.
 2. This rule must also be applied for each quarter of the table, when the direct elimination is taking place simultaneously on 4 or 8 pistes.
 3. A fencer must always be allowed a rest period of ten minutes between two consecutive bouts.

The final

- o.27.** The Directoire Technique must decide and announce, before the beginning of the competition, whether the final will consist of 2, 4 or 8 fencers.

Classification

- o.28.**
 1. The general classification is obtained as follows:
 - First: the winner of the bout for the first place
 - Second: the loser of the bout for the first place
 2. The two fencers who lose the semi-final matches are placed equal third, when it is not necessary to separate them.
 3. When it is necessary to separate them, a bout for third and fourth places will be fought between the two losers of the semi-final matches.
 4. The remainder are placed, within each round of the direct elimination, in accordance with their classification for the composition of the direct elimination table.
 5. The fencers eliminated in the round of pools are classified according to their classification in this round and they are classed after those who qualified for the direct elimination.

CHAPTER 6. TEAM COMPETITIONS

A. World and Zonal Championships (and Olympic Paralympic Games) team events

- o.42.** At each weapon teams consist of three fencers, with or without a reserve.

Each team must have at least one fencer of category „B“ or „C“ in the starting team. In case of substitution during a bout there must remain a category „B“ or „C“ fencer in the fencing team.

The fencing measure shall be as category „A“ or „B“.

A team may only begin a match if it is complete.

- o.43.** 1. The competition is run by integral direct elimination with a direct elimination table which may be incomplete (see Figure 7b).

Teams are ranked according to their fencers' individual results. Thereby it has to be taken into account that

- a) The score is the sum of the best three individual competition ranking of the fencers nominated for the team event.
- b) Category „C“ fencers, not competing in category „B“ event, get as individual competition ranking the „number of fencers in category 'B' competition“ +1.
- c) If there is more than one category „A“ fencer in the team, the score is calculated by the ranking of the best two category „A“ fencers and the ranking of the best category „B“ or „C“ fencer.
- d) If there is exactly one category „A“ fencer in the team, the score is calculated by the ranking of this category „A“ fencer and the best two category „B“ or „C“ fencers.
- e) Only if there is no category „A“ fencer in the team, it is allowed to take the ranking of the best three category „B“ or „C“ fencers for calculating the score.

3. 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.

- o.44.** The formula for the competition is as follows.

1. The relay formula applies to all weapons.
2. The three fencers of one team fence the three fencers of the opposing team (9 relay bouts).
3. The bouts of each match have to be fought in the following order:

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

If this order is altered, intentionally or unintentionally, all the hits scored following the modification are annulled and the match is resumed in the correct order.

4. The position of each team on the match score-sheet is decided by drawing lots. The order of the individual fencers is decided by the team captains.
5. Each 'lap' (bout) of the relay match consists of five hits (5, 10, 15, 20, etc.); the maximum time for each bout is 3 minutes.
6. The first two opponents fence until one of them has scored five hits, within the time limit of 3 minutes.

The next two opponents fence until one of their scores has reached ten hits, within the time limit of 3 minutes, and so on with successive bouts, cumulatively, of five hits.
7. If by the expiry of 3 minutes of fencing time the intended score for the bout has not been achieved, the next two fencers take up the score where it was left off and fence up to the maximum score intended for their bout as normal, within the time limit of 3 minutes.
8. The winning team is that which first reaches the maximum score of 45 hits, or that which has scored the greatest number of hits after the expiry of regulation time.
9. If at the end of regulation time for the last bout the scores are equal, the match continues for a deciding hit, with a maximum time limit of one minute, fought for by the fencers of the last bout in the match. Before the fencing recommences the Referee draws lots to decide who will be the winner if scores are still equal at the end of the extra minute.
10. a) In the course of a match the captain of a team may ask to substitute for a fencer the reserve nominated before the start of the match. This substitution may only be made at the end of a bout.

The fencer who has been replaced may not fence again during that match in order to replace a fencer on the piste, even in the case of an accident or unavoidable circumstances. The announcement that a fencer is to be substituted, which must be reported by the Referee to the Directoire Technique and to the opposing team captain, must be made at the latest before the beginning of the bout preceding the next bout of the fencer who is to be replaced. After substitution there has to be still at least one category „B“ or „C“ fencer among the three fencers on the piste.
- b) If an accident occurs in the bout which follows the request for a substitution, the team captain may annul that request.
- c) If the captain of the opposing team has also requested a substitution, this substitution may be implemented or cancelled.
11. a) If a member of a team is obliged to retire during a match as the result of an accident which has been duly recognised by a medical representative of the IWF, the captain of his team may ask to put in a reserve to continue the match at the point where the competitor who was obliged to retire withdrew, even during a bout in progress.
- b) However, a competitor who is thus replaced cannot again take his place in the team during the same match.

12. 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.
13. When for any reason whatever a team does not complete an event in which it is taking part, the Directoire Technique will apply the rules laid down for a competitor who does not complete an event in an individual competition, each team being considered in its entirety as being a single competitor.
14. When a team fails to appear against another team it is considered:
 - a) as not completing the event in which it is taking part, if it has already fenced against another team (cf. o.25);
 - b) as not competing at all in the event, if it is its first match.

B. Team competitions at World Cups

- o.45.** Apart from the following aspects, the competition is run in accordance with rules laid down for the team events in the ~~Open~~ World Championships.
- o.46.**
 1. All places in the table down 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 seeding in the table.
 2. If a team does not begin a match they will be disqualified from the competition, unless this is because of an injury or illness, duly attested by the duty doctor.
- o.47.**
 1. The table will be drawn up based on the ranking of the teams present at 6 p.m. (18.00 hrs) on the eve before the competition.

CHAPTER 7. ORGANISATION OF OFFICIAL IWF COMPETITIONS

A. COMMON CONDITIONS

Programme of competitions

- o.48.**
 1. The programme of fencing events at the Paralympic Games currently comprises fifteen events:
 - epee female individual Category A
 - epee female individual Category B
 - epee female team
 - epee male individual Category A
 - epee male individual Category B
 - epee male team
 - foil female individual Category A
 - foil female individual Category B
 - foil female team

foil male individual Category A
foil male individual Category B
foil male team
saber male individual Category A
saber male individual Category B
saber male team

International Paralympic Committee (IPC) has the right for any change in the number of events in arrangement with IWF EC.

2. The programme of the World Championships comprises seventeen (nineteen) events, those mentioned in 1. and additionally

epee male individual Category C
foil male individual Category C
(epee female individual Category C
foil female individual Category C)

3. The programme of World Cups comprises ten individual events

epee female individual Category A
epee female individual Category B
epee male individual Category A
epee male individual Category B
foil female individual Category A
foil female individual Category B
foil male individual Category A
foil male individual Category B
saber male individual Category A
saber male individual Category B

Additionally there should be at least one World Cup per season also comprising individual events in epee and foil for category C.

Team events specified by IWF EC should be held at World Cups.

4. TIMING

Paralympics, World and Regional Championships, IWAS Games should follow the following time table:

1 st day:	Foil Male Individual A & B Epee Female Individual A & B
2 nd day:	Foil Male Team Epee Female Team
3 rd day:	Foil Male Individual C Saber Male Individual A & B
4 th day:	Epee Male Individual C Saber Male Team
5 th day:	Epee Male Individual A & B Foil Female Individual A & B
6 th day:	Epee Male Team Foil Female Team

The IWF EC is allowed to change the order of the time table due to special reasons.

For World Cups, the organisers must submit the programme of events to the IWF EC for its approval.

Venues, installations, equipment, accreditation, circulation of people in the competition enclosure, administrative organisation of the Organising Committee, personnel, various publications and the official programme

- o.49.** The Organising Committee must take note of the instructions in the Specifications ('Organising IWF World Cup Events', 'Organising IWF Regional Championships' and 'Organising IWF World Championships').

Entries by member federations

Official invitation

- o.50.**
1. For all the official competitions of the IWF except the Paralympic Games, the official invitation is the letter in which the organising federation invites every IWF member federation to take part in the Championships.
 2. For the World Championships, this invitation must be sent to all the member federations, without exception, at least six months before the competitions.
 3. For World Cup competitions, it must be sent out as specified in 'Organising IWF World Cup Events'.

Advance programme

- o.51.** A brochure, comprising an 'advance programme' of the Championships, must be sent to the member federations together with the official invitation. It should contain at least the following information:
- a) the official name of the Organising Committee, postal address, telegraph address and telephone and fax numbers;
 - b) the proposed timetable;
 - c) organisational details;
 - d) information on means of transport, visas, customs duties, etc.;
 - e) information on hotel, its price, its location relative to the competition venue.

Entry forms

- o.52.** *Commitment to take part in the World and Zonal Championships*

The forms must be sent to all federations at the same time as the official invitation. The federations must indicate their intention to participate three months before the beginning of the Championships.

- o.53.** *Entries for World and Zonal Championships*

1. Three months before the start of the 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 events. No additional entry of fencers will be accepted after this date.
2. The entry of the names of the fencers and all possible substitutes, and the entry of teams, must be made fifteen days before the first event of the Championships at the latest.
3. After the cut-off date for entries there can be no further additional entries nor any withdrawal of a name.

Nevertheless one or more fencers may be added, up until 10.00 am on the day before the competition, after payment to the IWF of a fine of 150 Euros per fencer added. To do this the national federation must address a request to the IWF / Organising Committee to add a fencer, together with the payment equivalent to the fine.

Changes of names, only with the agreement of the IWF and only for reasons of 'force majeure' or injury, can only be made up to 24 hours before each event.

- o.54.** *Entries by name for World Cup competitions*

1. The entry of the names of the fencers and all possible replacements, and the entry of teams, must be 7 days before the first event of competition at the latest
2. After the deadline for entries, there can be no further additional entries nor the withdrawal of a name except in cases of properly authenticated injury or 'force majeure'.

However, before the Tuesday preceding the competition:

- a fencer may be replaced by another. To do this, the national federations must send to the IWF / Organising Committee, in writing (fax or e-mail), a request for a fencer to be replaced.
- one or more fencers may be added, on payment to the IWF of a fine of 150 Euros per fencer added. To do this, the national federations must send to the IWF / Organising Committee, in writing (fax or e-mail), a request to add a fencer, together with a copy of the bank transfer for the appropriate fine.

From the Tuesday preceding the competition, if a fencer is withdrawn because of injury or 'force majeure', the national federations must inform the IWF and the organisers. The fencer cannot be replaced.

3. In the case of team competition entries, the names of the fencers making up the team may be modified up until midday on the day before the competition, by informing the organisers.
4. Confirmation of the presence of the fencers and teams is made at the time the fencers and teams are entered.
5. Should a fencer or team who have been entered not present themselves to fence, their federation will be penalised with a fine of 500 Euros, payable to the IWF, except in cases of properly authenticated injury or 'force majeure'.
6. The organisers of all official competitions must, at risk of a penalty of a fine of 1000 Euros, refuse the entry of any fencers not appearing on lists conforming with the above, any entry not requested by a federation, which must be an IWAS member in good standing, and any entry of either fencer or referee not in possession of a valid IWF classification / licence.

Age of participants

- o.55.** 1. There is no maximum age limit for competitors as long as the competition is not specified as a Junior Competition.
2. No fencer is allowed to take part in an official event of the IWF unless he or she is at least 13 years old on 1 January in the year of the competition.
3. A fencer that is less than 16 years old on 1 January in the year of the competition must have a certificated agreement of his federation and his federation's medical staff to start in an IWF competition as long as this competition is not specified as a Junior Competition.

Technical management of major competitions

- o.56.** Apart from the specific areas of competence which are the responsibility of the other technical officials, the technical management of major competitions is entrusted to the Directoire Technique, whose composition and nomination must respect the specific rules for each competition.

Nomination

- o.57.** 1. The Directoire Technique at World Championships
 - a) The technical organisation of World Championships and Paralympic Games is undertaken by a Directoire Technique of six members of different nationalities, one of whom must represent the organising country.

- b) The Directoire Technique is composed of people who are experienced at organising competitions. It is appointed by the IWF EC.
 - c) The President of the Directoire Technique is appointed from among its members, also by the IWF EC.
 - d) Should there be a tied vote among the members of the Directoire Technique, the President of the Directoire Technique has the casting vote.
2. For World Cup competitions, Directoires Techniques are appointed by the organising committees, in accordance with the rules specified in Article o.78 below.

Functions

- o.58.** 1. The functions of the Directoire Technique include the strict but complete organisation of the different events and the obligation to see that the Rules are adhered to; they cannot decide on any departure from the Rules except when circumstances arise in which it is absolutely impossible to apply them.
2. The Directoire Technique is responsible for the technical organisation of the competitions and for ensuring their smooth running.
3. Hence:
- a) It checks technical installations;
 - b) It checks the entries;
 - c) It draws up the pool sheets and direct elimination table, according to the rules for individual and team events;
 - d) It allocates referees at the suggestion of the Refereeing delegate, as well as the pistes;
 - e) It supervises the start and progress of the event on the various pistes;
 - f) It examines complaints and solves them;
 - g) It checks results with the help of the Organising Committee;
 - h) It prepares the subsequent events sufficiently in advance to be able to warn the fencers, officials and judges;
 - i) It supervises the dissemination of results.
4. Furthermore the Directoire Technique has disciplinary responsibility at competitions; Article t.97 defines the extent of its authority.

Operation

- o.59.** The members of the Directoire Technique cannot act in any other capacity at the meeting, such as team captain, official delegate of their federation, referee, competitor, etc. (except at World Cup competitions).
- o.60.** 1. The Directoire Technique must always attend events from beginning to end, so as to solve any problem which could arise and thus ensure that the event continues to run smoothly.

2. All the decisions of the Directoire Technique must be displayed sufficiently in advance on a clearly visible notice-board to be consulted by the fencers and officials. In principle, fencers and officials are informed by their heads of delegations or captains, and they may not lay a complaint against changes in the timetable or any other matter about which information has been displayed at the required time.
- o.61.** For the World Championships and the Paralympic Games the Directoire Technique must meet at least 24 hours before the first event to draw the first round of pools of the first event.
- o.62.** For questions concerning the rules, the Refereeing Commission delegate(s) alone are competent to judge the value of a referee's decision.

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

The Supervisor settles any disputes that might arise. It is the responsibility of the IWF EC or of its designated representative to settle any disputes which arise at World Championships.

Supervision by the IWF

- o.63.** With the aim of ensuring that the rules are observed, the President and the members of the IWF EC have the right to attend all meetings of the Directoire Technique. The Directoire Technique is obliged to give them notice of such meetings.

Anti-doping testing

- o.64.** An anti-doping test must be carried out at all official competitions of the FIE IWF in accordance with the regulations in Article t.127 and the Anti- Doping Rules of the IWAS. It may begin from the start of the competition and applies to fencers who have finished fencing.

B. WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Entries

- o.65.** 1. At the World Championships, entries are limited according to the 'Qualification System for World Championships'.
2. All countries attributed to IWAS can participate with at least one athlete in each type of event and category as long as that athlete is listed in the current IWF ranking list. Restrictions for qualification are described in details in the specifications „IWF Qualification system for the World Championships“.
3. At least six fencers from four IWAS countries will have to participate for the said event to be considered an official IWF „World Championship Event“.
4. An athlete may participate in a maximum of two types of events (epee/foil/saber), which must be the same in individual and the team events.

Referees

- o.66.** 1. Refereeing at World Championships is carried out by referees that are listed in the IWF referees' list.
2. Referees' board and lodging costs are paid by the organising committee, who in return will receive all the entry fees.
3. Referees must attend the refereeing meeting that takes place the day before the World Championships.
4. The number of referees (cf. t.35) that must accompany teams to World Championships is:
- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1–4 fencers | No obligation to provide a referee |
| 5–8 fencers | One referee |
| 9 or more fencers | Two referees |

Should a national federation not bring the required number of referees, it will be charged a fine of 500 Euros.

This fine must be paid by the delegation to the organisers, who may keep this amount provided that they ensure the services of the referee(s) necessary to replace the missing referee(s). This fine reverts to the IWF if the organisers do not arrange the presence of replacement international referees, who may be from the organising country.

Under whatever circumstances, if a national federation does not pay this fine, it must reduce the participation of its fencers in conformity with the quotas.

Invitations for international officials

- o.67.** 1. Any proposed candidature for organising the World Championships must be studied at the venue concerned by an ad hoc delegation designated by the IWF EC, 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 IWF or his representative, who presides over the World Championships and, in particular, controls the smooth running of the Directoire Technique.
 - b) A head of protocol designated by the President of the IWF.
 - c) Six members of the Directoire Technique appointed by the IWF EC, of whom one must belong to the organising country.
 - d) Three members of the SEMI Committee
 - f) Two members of the Medical Commission, appointed by IWF EC.
 - g) The nations' referees, but they must pay the travelling costs on their own expense.

C. ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

ENTRIES

- o.68.** 1. At Zonal Championships, entries are limited to four fencers per weapon per nation for the individual events and one team per weapon per nation for the team events. All IWAS countries of that region may send fencers to the Zonal Championships.
2. The Rules of the IWF are obligatory.
3. At least six fencers from four IWAS countries will have to participate for the said event to be considered an official IWF „Zonal Championship Event“.
4. An athlete may participate in a maximum of two types of events (epee/foil/saber), which must be the same in individual and the team events

Technical delegates of the IWF

- o.69.** 1. The Technical delegate of the IWF, who represents the IWF in accordance with the Rules for Zonal Championships, will be chosen by the President of the IWF, after consultation with the IWF EC, according to criteria of recognised technical abilities.
2. The expenses incurred by this representative (tourist-class air fare, hotel and board) will be paid by the Organising Committee.

Technical officials and referees

- o.70.** The Organising Committee must pay the expenses (tourist-class air fare, hotel and board) for the following officials:
1. *Directoire Technique*. One foreign members if the Directoire Technique has three members; two foreign members if there are six members. The Directoire Technique is appointed by the IWF EC after consultation with the Organising Committee.
2. *Checking of Equipment*. One or two representatives of the SEMI.
3. *Technical delegate*. A representative of the IWF EC.
4. The nations´ referees (but they must pay the travelling costs on their own)

The number of referees (cf. t.35) that must accompany teams to World Championships is:

1–4 fencers	No obligation to provide a referee
5–8 fencers	One referee
9 or more fencers	Two referees

Should a national federation not bring the required number of referees, it will be charged a fine of 500 Euros.

This fine must be paid by the delegation to the organisers, who may keep this amount provided that they ensure the services of the referee(s) necessary to replace the missing referee(s). This fine reverts to the IWF if the organisers do not arrange the presence of replacement international referees, who may be from the organising country.

Under whatever circumstances, if a national federation does not pay this fine, it must reduce the participation of its fencers in conformity with the quotas.

D. WORLD CUP COMPETITIONS

Introduction

- o.75.**
1. The World Cup competitions will be those that met the conditions as laid down by the IWF, designated by the IWF EC and published in the IWF Official Calendar
 2. All the official competitions of the IWF Calendar will be valid for International Ranking according to the scale of points that IWF establishes on 'Rules Of Ranking' in o.83.

Criteria

o.76. Admission

A competition can only be classed or kept as a World Cup competition if it satisfies the following criteria.

1. At least six fencers from four IWAS countries will have to participate for the said event to be considered an official IWF „World Cup Event“.
2. An athlete may participate in a maximum of two types of events (epee/foil/saber), which must be the same in individual and the team events.
3. Different events must be organised by category.
4. The Rules of the IWF must be faithfully applied, as well as the IWF specification 'Organising World Cup Events'. The organisers must use automatic judging equipment of which the prototype has been approved by the SEMI.
5. The finals (2, 4 or 8) must take place in a hall in which there is space allocated to the public.
6. There must be a sufficient number of pistes to allow the first round to take place in no more than two series of pools.
7. There must be a medical doctor present on the premises of the competition for the whole duration of the competition.
8. There must be an anti-doping test conforming to the regulations of the ~~FIE~~ IWAS (cf. t.127 and the IWAS Anti-Doping Rules).

o.77. The Supervisor

1. The organisers of World Cup events, must ensure the presence of a supervisor of the IWF EC from a country other than that of the organisers, whose task it will be to verify that the competition properly fulfils the World Cup criteria.
2. The travel, board and lodging costs of the supervisor are the responsibility of the organisers, in accordance with the standards updated from time to time by the IWF EC.
3. This supervisor is appointed by the IWF EC.

o.78. The Directoire Technique

1. The Directoire Technique shall consist of three suitable members from the organising country or invited by it.
2. The competition supervisor, designated by the IWF EC, shall also be president of the Directoire Technique.

Participation

- o.79.** There is no limitation of fencers per nation at World Cups.
- o.80.** Fencers can only participate in a World Cup, if their national federation is an IWAS member in good standing.

Referees — World Cups

- o.81.** 1. The number of referees (cf. t.35) that must accompany teams to World Cup competitions is:

1–4 fencers	No obligation to provide a referee
5–8 fencers	One referee
9 or more fencers	Two referees

2. For World Cup competitions, should a national federation not bring the required number of referees, it will be charged a fine of 500 Euros.

This fine must be paid by the delegation to the organisers, who may keep this amount provided that they ensure the services of the referee(s) necessary to replace the missing referee(s). This fine reverts to the IWF if the organisers do not arrange the presence of replacement international referees, who may be from the organising country.

Under whatever circumstances, if a national federation does not pay this fine, it must reduce the participation of its fencers in conformity with the quotas (cf. o.81.1 above).

Individual World rankings

- o.83.** 1. Official IWF individual ranking

a) Principles

The official IWF Ranking takes into account all results of the World Cup competitions in which the fencer has participated plus the World Championships or Paralympic Games and the Zonal Championships. These competitions must satisfy the official IWF regulations and specifications.

b) The ranking period starts with the Paralympic Games / World Championship and lasts until the next Paralympic Games / World Championships.

c) Only competitions of that period in the current year and the year before will count for the ranking.

d) In the event of equal points, the winner is the one who has gained the most first places, then second places, etc.

If there is a complete tie, the fencers are ranked equal.

- e) After each World Cup competition, Paralympics, World and Zonal Championships, the IWF EC updates the official IWF ranking.
- f) Except where special rules apply, the official up-to-date IWF ranking is the deciding factor for all rankings, seedings, exemptions, etc.

2. Scale of points

- a) The ranking is based on the following points system:

$$\text{Points} = \frac{\text{Force} \times 50}{16} \times \left(1,1 - \frac{\log(P)}{\log(N)} \right)$$

where:

- POINTS is the number of point allocated to each fencer
- P is the Place of the fencer to resulting from the competition
- N is the Number of participating fencers to the competition.
- Force is the nap of the number of points that brings the fencers present according to the table following :

Fencers ranked from 1 to 4 bring 10 points

Fencers ranked from 5 to 8 bring 5 points

Fencers ranked from 9 to 12 bring 3 points

Fencers ranked from 13 to 16 bring 1 point

This Force will be calculated according to the up-to-date IWF ranking list at the date of competition.

The Maximum force is thus of 76 points (4x10 + 4x5 + 4x3 + 4x1). The Minimum force will be restricted to 10 points.

A brief description with examples can be found in the IWF specification „Calculation method for the International Ranking List“.

- b) No ranking points will be awarded to fencers in their category who compete in a category not of their classification.
- c) The points obtained in a valid IWF competition will be multiplied with a time factor, which is

1 for competitions of the current year,

0.5 for competitions the year before

- d) The final Ranking score is the sum of the fencer’s points (multiplied with the time factor) of all valid competitions.

3. Honours to the World Cup winner

For each year the 'Winner of the World Cup Season' is determined by summing the ranking points of all World Cup competitions of that year for each fencer. Winner is the fencers with the highest ranking score.

In the event of equal points, the winner is the one who has gained the most first places, then second places, etc. If there is a complete tie, the fencers are ranked equal.

The winner (first ranked fencer) of each official IWF World Cup ranking of the IWF will be announced at the end of the year and the prizes will be awarded at the next World Cup competition.

Figure 7a. Bout plan for individual direct elimination (table for 32 fencers)

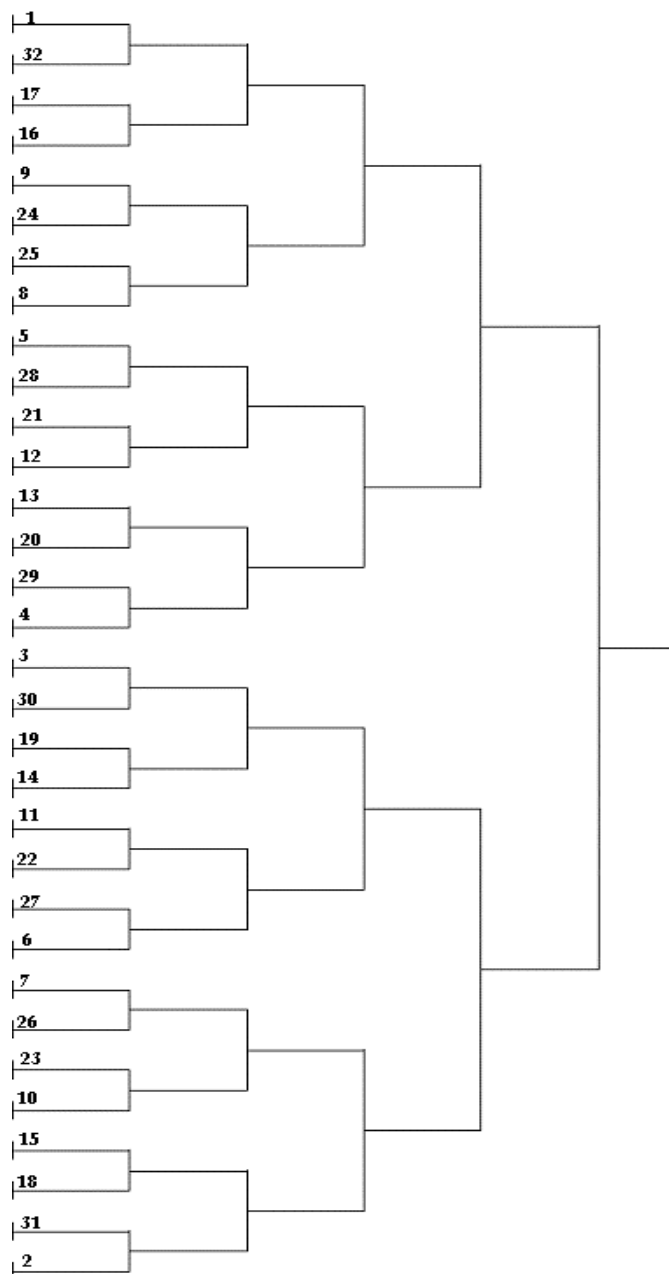


Figure 7b. Bout plan for direct elimination for team competitions (16 teams)

