



STATUTES OF THE NORDIC FENCING UNION

Accepted by the Congress of the Nordic Fencing Union 22.10.2021

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1. Purpose

The purpose of the Nordic Fencing Union is to promote the sport and increase the level of fencing in the member countries through cooperation in sports and organization.

2. Organization

Fencing federations in the Nordic and Baltic countries who are members of the International Fencing Federation can become members of the Nordic Fencing Union.

Any member federation can withdraw from the union at any time. The Nordic Fencing Union can be dissolved when a majority of members want it.

Current member federations are Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Norway and Iceland.

The Congress is the highest authority of the union. Daily business is taken care of by a board elected by the Congress.

The working language of the Nordic Fencing Union is English.

3. The Congress

The Nordic Fencing Union organizes a regular Congress once a year. The Congress is normally organized the day before the Nordic Championship in épée for cadets and juniors.. The organizing federation of the Nordic Championship has the obligation to supply a meeting room and other practical necessities to organise the Congress.

The board announces the Congress at least 6 months in advance, including agenda and place of the Congress. At the same time, the board invites the member federations to send in proposals to be treated at the Congress. The proposals and issues to be dealt with at the Congress must be with the member federations at least one month before the Congress.

Each member federation has one vote at the Congress. The Congress is competent to make decisions with the number of accepted votes present. In case of equality of votes, lots will be drawn. Member federations be represented by another member federation by proxy. A member federation can carry the proxy of only one other member federation.

The agenda of the Congress must at least include the following points:

1. Validation of present member federations and proxies
2. Approval of the agenda
3. Issues regarding membership
4. The annual report of the board
5. Proposals
6. Selection of the hosts of the Nordic Championships two years ahead.

7. Elections

The presidents of the member federations are members of the board *ex officio*. Among the board members the Congress shall elect a President and a Vice President.

8. Designation of the host for the Congress and decision on the date of the Congress two years ahead

9. Miscellaneous

The Congress is chaired by the President of the host federation of the Nordic Championships.

The minutes of the Congress are written by the host federation and issued to the member federations no later 14 days after the Congress. If no comments from the participants in the Congress has arrived to the President of the NFU within 14 days after the draft minutes were sent out they are accepted and official.

Information regarding name and contact details of all the board members shall be stated in the minutes.

4. The Board

The Nordic Fencing Union is governed in its daily business by the board under the leadership of the President and, if the President for some reason cannot fill this function, by the Vice President.

The tasks of the board include:

- carrying out the decisions taken by the Congress
- taking care of the daily administration
- taking initiatives to strengthen Nordic cooperation in fencing

5. Nordic Championships

5.1. Every year Nordic championships shall be arranged in all weapons for both women and men.

The Nordic Championship shall be organised in accordance with the FIE rules with the exceptions presented in these statutes.

Woman can only participate in woman competitions, and men in men's competitions

To pursue a class, at least six fencers have to be registered for competitions. If less than six fencers have registered on the last day of registration

- Juniors and younger shall be offered to participate in a competitions of older fencers,
- Veteran shall be offered to participate in a competition of younger fencers but under the same conditions as the rest of competitors.
- No handicap system will be used.

The championships are organized for the classes indicated below:

Veterans:

In veteran championships, the season is 1 July-30 June. A fencer's age is taken as the age at the end of the season year. Fencers competing in the 2022 veteran championships in the season that commences in 2021 will fence in the category that corresponds to their age on 31 December, 2022.

The age groups in veteran competitions are:

- a) Veterans 40-49 years
- b) Veterans 50-59 years
- c) Veterans 60-69 years
- d) Veterans 70+

Seniors: No age limits.

Juniors: Fencers taking part in Junior Championships must be under 20 years old at midnight on the 31st December of the first year in the season in which the competition takes place.

Cadets: Fencers taking part in Cadet Championships must be under 17 years old at midnight on the 31st December of the first year in the season in which the competition takes place.

Optionally the organizer of the Junior championships can organize Youth Championships for the following age groups. The organiser decides the age groups respecting these limitations:

U14/U15: Fencers taking part in Championships must be under 15 years old at midnight on the 31st December of the first year in the season in which the competition takes place.

U12/U13: Fencers taking part in Championships must be under 13 years old at midnight on the 31st December of the first year in the season in which the competition takes place.

5.2. Fencers from any member federations of the FIE can participate.

Two medal ceremonies are held if the medallists are not all coming from member federations of the Nordic Fencing Union.

a) The first medal ceremony is held for the Nordic Championships where the medallists receive the medals of the Nordic Fencing Union. The highest ranked Nordic fencer is the Nordic Champion for the calendar year concerned and receives the gold medal. The second highest ranked Nordic fencer receives the silver medal. The two following Nordic fencers receive bronze medals.

For the gold medal there is a barrage if both fencers have been eliminated in the same phase of the competition (semifinals, quarterfinals...). For silver and bronze medals, the fencers are separated by the ranking after the poules.

b) In the second medal ceremony, medals are awarded to the medallists in the open championships.

There are individual championships. The organizing country may further decide to organize team championships for Seniors and Juniors. Only teams composed of fencers from the same member federation of the Nordic Fencing Union can be Nordic Team Champion.

The arrangement of the Nordic Championships rotates between the Nordic nations interested in organizing the Championships.

The organizer must send the invitation to the Nordic Championships to all member federations at least three months before the events. If youth championships are organized, the age groups must be clearly described in this invitation.

The costs from organizing Nordic Championships are borne by the organizing federation.

It is the responsibility of the organizing federation and the Directoire technique to ensure that the international fencing rules are respected, particularly regarding safety. However, it is not necessary to have blades approved by the FIE at the Nordic Championships. Furthermore, regarding the classes U12/U13 and U14/U15 the organizing federation may decide to have other rules regarding equipment than the FIE rules. There must be medical personnel present.

The organizer may deviate from the international rules regarding the format of the tournaments. It is possible to let all participating fencers pass the first round, and the organizer may choose to run two rounds of poules without any elimination, and the organizer may choose to supplement the direct elimination with a repêchage.

The Directoire technique (DT) is appointed by the organizing federation and shall consist of three members. The DT shall have equivalent tasks and competence as the DT has according to the FIE rules.

The organizing federation shall appoint one of the members of the DT to be responsible for the referees during the tournament. This DT member shall have the same authority as that of the Referee Commission delegate or the supervisor to make decisions that are described in the FIE rules t.122.4.

The name of the three DT members and information regarding which of the members that is responsible for the referees shall be posted at the competition.

5.3. If the organizer decides that the registration to the competition shall be made through the federations of the participating fencers, the participating federations are obliged to provide referees as follows:

1-4 fencers,	0 referees
5-9 fencers,	1 referee
10-15 fencers,	2 referees
16-20 fencers,	3 referees
21 and more,	4 referees

The organizing federation can impose a fine, amounting to Euro 150 per referee not provided.

5.4. Equipment requirements

The Nordic Fencing Union has the following material rules for the Nordic Championship competitions:

- Senior-, veteran-, junior-, cadet
800N, FIE - jacket, breeches and plastron
Mask - 1600N, FIE
FIE-blades not required

- U14/U12 or U15/U13 fencers
350N - jacket, breeches
800N, FIE - plastron (or plastron 350, jacket 800N FIE)
350N -mask
FIE-blades not required

- U10/U11 fencers
350N -jacket, breeches, plastron, mask
FIE-blades not required

The Nordic Union recommends that these rules are followed also during training.

6. The statutes

The statutes may be changed by the Congress with a simple majority provided the proposals for changes have been presented according to point 3.