

Rules for European Veterans Championships
(dated 19th January 2012)

1. General

- i) The chief activity of the EVFC in promoting veterans fencing is to seek and approve applications to host a European Veterans Fencing Championship each year, ideally in a different European country each year, Individual and Team in alternate years.
- ii) The Individual and Team events are to be held in alternate years, the Team event in “even“ years and the Individual event in “odd“ years. The EVFC has recommended that the date of the European competition will be during Ascension week, exceptions possible if absolutely necessary.
- iii) The EVFC accepts no responsibility for the running of European Championships events. The event organisers are responsible for all costs, organisation, administration, safety, sponsorship and publicity.
- iv) The EVFC may seek approval for limited departure from FIE competition rules that are appropriate for veteran fencers, but nonetheless competitors must have their names and country code on the backs of their jacket at Epée or lames at Foil and Sabre and FIE Health and Safety regulation apply.
- v) The entries of the fencers to EVFC Championships to be made exclusively by the National Veterans' Associations where existing, or by the country representative, and not by individual fencers.
- vi) In team championships, Gold, Silver and 1 Bronze medal to be awarded for each weapon.
- vii) In individual championships, Gold, Silver and 2 Bronze medals to be awarded for each weapon in each age group. Blank medals may be obtained from Austria, but this is not obligatory.
- viii) Transparent masks for sabre are not obligatory.
- ix) If the score is equal at end of time, the priority rule to be used.
- x) If a fencer withdraws from a competition, he/she will not be allowed to re-join the event.
- xi) The EVFC accepts referees over 60 years.
- xii) Each member country shall pay an annual Membership Fee which will be collected each year by the European Championships organisers. This money shall only be used for the benefit of that year's Championships.

Any nation, which does not have any participants at a particular European Championship, may pay their membership fee to the EVFC Secretary/Treasurer at the time of the annual EVFC meeting or at any other time.

- xiii) Candidate host nations shall submit a proposal dossier to the officers of the EVFC at least 2 years before the proposed date of the championships. The dossier shall contain the technical and financial details of the proposal.

The officers of the EVFC will study the proposal and appoint a representative to work with the organising committee of EVFC Championships.

The organisers of the European Championships shall, at their reasonable expense, invite the appointed EVFC representative to

- visit and inspect the Fencing Venue as to suitability
- discuss the supply of technical equipment
- examine the provision of refreshments for officials and participants during the Championships
- confirm the availability of convenient and suitably priced accommodations

- discuss the transfer arrangements between accommodations and fencing venue
- liaise with the organising committee, prior to approval by the EVFC, regarding entry fees

The EVFC representative shall report back to the Officers of the EVFC the findings of the visit and make any recommendations necessary.

The officers of the EVFC shall, where necessary, request modifications to the organisers arrangements to ensure the safety of the participants at the Championships, the control of costs of participation and the continuing improvement in standards.

The officers of the EVFC shall approve the budgeted Entry Fees and recommend the Candidate's proposal for acceptance.

The EVFC representative will be invited to be a member of the organising committee if necessary at email distance.

2. Eligibility

- i) For the purposes of the Championships, "Veteran" is defined as 40 years and over. Eligibility to compete in a particular age group or team is decided by age on the first day of tournament.
- ii) Each competitor must be a citizen or subject of a constitutional part of Europe as defined by the European Fencing Confederation.
- iii) An eligible competitor may represent the country of his or her birth provided that he or she is a citizen or subject of that country.
- iv) If an eligible competitor wishes to represent a European country other than that of his or her birth, he or she must have been ordinarily resident in that country for a minimum continuous period of twelve months during the twentyfour months prior to the closing date of the entries to the European Veterans Fencing Championships concerned.
- v) Where a competitor has already competed in the European Championships for one celebration of the Championships he or she may represent another European country at a future celebration provided that they are eligible, with the approval of the EVFC and written permission of the fencing federation for the country for whom the participant is registering to compete
- vi) If a fencer has represented one country in a European Veteran Championship, Team or Individual, he/she may not represent another country at the next European Veterans Championship.
- vii) If a fencer has multiple nationalities he/she may choose the country he/she wishes to represent. If he/she has already represented one country in a European Veterans Championship, Team or Individual, he/she may not represent another country at the next European Championships.
- viii) If a fencer has changed representation from one country to another he/she may not represent the prior country or any other country at the next two European Veterans Championships
- ix) An eligible competitor must produce the following at registration for a European Veterans Fencing Championships
 1. A valid passport or identity card (for identification, proof of European Citizenship and confirmation of date of birth) and, if fencing for a country other than of his or her birth, proof of ordinary residence for the required period in that country.
 2. A valid licence card from the national fencing federation for the country for whom the participant is registering to compete
 3. The Entry fee in Euros or the equivalent in the local currency.

- v) A database has been established, using the entry data from the 2008 and 2009 European Veterans Championships as a baseline and updated every year after the European Veterans Championships, to record the names, gender, date of birth and nationality of entry of each participant. The database will be maintained by the officers of the EVFC and will be used, by the officers of the EVFC, to provide advice to recognised national representatives, organisers of the European Veterans Championships and evidence in times of dispute in matters of eligibility only.

The database will be published on the EVFC website and should include the national licence number.

3. Individual Championships

- i) There are four age groups: 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70 and over. Every fencer can only start in the age group to which he or she belongs.
- ii) When fewer than 6 fencers enter a particular age group event, competition organisers are recommended to combine their event with the next nearest age group but provide separate results.
- iii) If possible, no participants should be eliminated in the first round of a tournament or - if necessary for running the tournament - as few as possible.
- iv) The seeding round is followed by Direct Elimination without repechage, bouts of 10 hits in six minutes, i.e. two periods of three minutes, separated by one minute rest.
- v) Participating countries are obliged to supply referees as a minimum per weapon per day according to the following formula

Less than 5 entries	0 referee to be supplied
5 to 9 entries	1 referee to be supplied
10 to 14 entries	2 referees to be supplied
15 to 19 entries	3 referees to be supplied
20 or more entries	4 referees to be supplied

- vi) The Championship organisers will supply all referees with drinks and refreshments when working.

4. Team Championships

- i) Composition of teams is single sex, teams of three with a minimum aggregate age of 150 years for men's teams and 140 years for women's teams, plus up to two reserves. Substitution of reserves (only one per match) must maintain compliance with the aggregate age requirement.
- ii) The losers of the semi-finals have to fence for the Bronze medal.
- iii) Each country may enter only one team per weapon.
- iv) Fencing mode is 5-hit bouts, not the relay system.
- v) Participating countries are obliged to supply referees as a minimum per day of the championships according to the following formula

Less than two weapon team entries	-	no obligation to supply referees
Two or more weapon team entries	-	1 multi-weapon referee (E/F, F/S, E/S or FES) to be supplied per day

The referees must be of at least national standard, FIE standard preferred, and must be competent and active.

The referees may be non-fencing or, if part of a weapon team, not fencing on the day/s they are to be available to referee

The sanction to be applied to a country for failure to supply referees is a fine of €100 per weapon team entered.

The host country will make supply any shortfall in referees required using the funds available from the fines applied.

- vi) The Championship organisers will supply all referees with drinks and refreshments when working.