
Rules for European Veterans Championships

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 lamés at Foil and Sabre, and FIE Health and Safety regulations 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 are forbidden at all weapons.
- 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) A representative from Candidate host nations shall submit a proposal dossier to the officers of the EVFC and the national representatives at the EVF Congress 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 the 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.

- xiv) The supply of referees, for both the Individual and the Team Championships, will be the responsibility of the Championship organisers who must ensure that there will be the correct proportion of referees to fencers and weapons. A referee fee should be added to the registration fee to cover the cost of referees. Countries may put forward names of potential referees for consideration to ensure a spread of referees of the appropriate standard across participating countries.

Any profit produced as a result of the referee fee will be paid to the EVFC to cover any losses incurred in later years.

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

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 defined as the age achieved on or after the 1st January of the year of the championships (i.e. age on the 31st December in the year of the championships).
- 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.
 4. A medical certificate is not required for European Veterans Fencing Championships. Organisers may require a discharge of responsibility signed by each participant.
 - x) 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) The wearing of national colours is strongly recommended, but not mandatory, at EVFC Individual Championships.

4. Team Championships

- i) There will be Team Championships events for both Men and Women at two age categories:

Veterans – teams of three composed of fencers belonging to either age group 40-49 or to age group 50-59, with at least one fencer belonging to age group 50-59, plus up to two reserves. Substitutions of reserves (only one per match) must maintain compliance with the age group representation

requirement.

Grand Veterans – teams of three composed of fencers belonging to either age group 60-69 or to age group 70 and over, with at least one fencer belonging to age group 70 and over, plus up to two reserves. Substitution of reserves (only one per match) must maintain compliance with the age group representation requirement.

- ii) Each country may enter only one team per weapon per category
- iii) The losers of the semi-finals have to fence for the Bronze medal.
- iv) Fencing mode is 5-hit bouts, not the relay system.
- v) In the event that there are 5 teams or less the format will be poules followed by D.E. from an incomplete tableau of 8 with fence off for the 4th and 5th positions.
- vi) In the event of only 1 team entry, the organisers must inform all nations that there will be no competition at that weapon.
- vii) The wearing of national colours is mandatory at EVFC Team Championships.