



Parent/Spectator Information Packet

Contents

Weapons.....	3
Basics of Competition.....	4
Fencing for Parents.....	5
Interesting Facts about Fencing.....	10
Fencing FAQs.....	11
Glossary of Terms.....	13
Classification Reference Chart.....	14
Pool Sheet.....	17
Addendum	Score Sheets for Individual and Teams

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Information and Background Guide

A far cry from the choreographed bouts portrayed on film, the sport of fencing is dynamic, fast and athletic.

Weapons

Foil, epee and saber are the three weapons used in the sport of fencing. While it is not unusual for fencers to compete in all three events, an athlete typically chooses to hone their skills in one weapon.



Foil – The Sport of Kings

The foil is a descendant of the light court sword formally used by nobility to train for duels. The foil has a flexible rectangular blade, approximately 35 inches in length and weighs less than one pound. Points are scored with the tip of the blade and must land within the torso of the body. The valid target area in foil is the torso from the shoulders to the groin in the front and to the waist in the back. It does not include the arms, neck, head and legs. This concept of on-target and off-target evolved from the theory of 18th-century fencing masters who instructed their pupils to only attack the vital areas of the body – i.e. the torso. Of course, the head is also a vital area of the body, but attacks to the face were considered unsporting and therefore discouraged.

The foil fencer's uniform includes a metallic vest (called a lamé), which covers the valid target area so that a valid touch will register on the scoring machine. The flexible nature of the foil blade permits the modern elite foil fencer to attack an opponent from seemingly impossible angles.

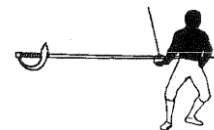


Epee – Freestyle Fencing

The epee (pronounced “EPP-pay,” meaning sword in French), the descendant of the dueling sword, is similar in length to the foil, but is heavier, weighing approximately 27 ounces, with a larger guard (to protect the hand from a valid hit) and a much stiffer blade. Touches are scored only with the point of the blade, and the entire body, head-to-toe, is the valid target area, imitating an actual duel.

A full-body target naturally makes epee a competition of careful strategy and patience – wild, rash attacks are quickly punished with solid counter-attacks. Therefore, rather than attacking outright, epeeists often spend several minutes probing their opponent's defences and maneuvering for distance before risking an attack. Others choose to stay on the defensive throughout the entire bout.

1996 was the first Olympics to feature team and individual Women's Epee events.



Saber – Hack and Slash

The saber is the modern version of the slashing cavalry sword, and is similar in length and weight to the foil. The major difference is the use of the blade. The saber is a cutting weapon as well as a thrusting weapon; therefore, saberists can score with the edge of their blade as well as their point. The target area is from the bend of the hips (both front and back), to the top of the head. This simulates the cavalry rider on a horse. The saber

fencers' uniform includes a metallic jacket (lamé), which fully covers the target area to register a valid touch on the scoring machine. Because the head is valid target area, the fencer's mask is also electrically wired.

If epee is the weapon of patient, defensive strategy, then saber is its polar opposite. In saber, the rules of right-of-way strongly favor the fencer who attacks first, and a mere graze by the blade against the lamé registers a touch with the scoring machine. These circumstances naturally make saber a fast, aggressive game, with fencers rushing their opponent from the moment the referee gives the instruction to fence. Athens was the first Olympics to feature a Women's Saber event.

Object of the Bout

The object of a fencing bout ("game") is to effectively score 15 points (in direct elimination play) or five points (in preliminary pool play) before your opponent, or have a higher score than your opponent when the time limit expires. Points are received by making a touch in the opponent's target area. Direct elimination matches consist of three, three-minute periods with a one-minute break between each.

Right-Of-Way

The right-of-way rule was established to eliminate apparently simultaneous attacks between two fencers. This rule is only applied to foil and saber and the difference is important only when both the red and green lights go on at the same time. When this happens, the winner of the point is the one who the referee determines held the right-of-way at the time the lights went on. The most basic, and important, precept of the right-of-way is that the fencer who started the attack first will receive the point if they hit the valid target area. Naturally, the fencer who is being attacked must defend himself or herself with a parry, or somehow cause their opponent to miss in order to take over right-of-way and score a point. A fencer who hesitates for too long while advancing on their opponent gives up right-of-way to their opponent. The referee may determine that the two fencers truly attacked each other simultaneously. The simultaneous attack results in no points being awarded, and the fencers are ordered back en garde by the referee to continue fencing.



In saber, the fencer who starts to attack first is given priority should his opponent counter-attack. However, saber referees are much less forgiving of hesitation by an attacker. It is common to see a saber fencer execute a stop cut against their opponent's forearm during such a moment of hesitation, winning right-of-way and the point.



Epee does not use the right-of-way in keeping with its dueling origin. He who first gains touch earns the point, or if both fencers hit within 1/25th of a second both earn a point.

Following the Action

The fencer being attacked defends himself by use of a “parry,” a motion used to deflect the opponent’s blade, after which the defender can make a “riposte,” an answering attack. Whenever a hit is made, the referee will stop the bout, describe the action, and decide whether to award a touch. Fencers seek to maintain a safe distance from each other – that is out of the range of the opponent’s attack. Then, one will try to break this distance to gain the advantage for an attack. At times, a fencer will make a false attack to gauge the types of reactions of their opponent.

When a fencer lands a hit, the referee stops the bout and – on foil and saber – determines who was the attacker, if their opponent successfully defended themselves, and which fencer should be awarded a touch, if any.

While it may be difficult to follow the referee’s calls (not helped by the fact that the officiating is performed in French!) the referee always clearly raises their hand and on the side of the fencer for whom they have awarded a point. Watching these hand signals can make it easier for newcomers to follow the momentum of a fencing bout without understanding all of the intricacies of the rules.



Fencing For Parents

Introduction

The sport of fencing is a uniquely classic sport. It has a history, drama, romance, style, art, plus all of the advantages of an active physically demanding sport. Mentally it is mind consuming, allowing not a moment’s break.

The Youth Program

The youth program of USA Fencing is designed to provide an introduction for your child to one of the most fascinating, exciting and safest sports. Fencing develops discipline, balance, coordination, and sportsmanship. Fencing helps youth develop quicker reflexes and the ability to make lightning fast analyses of tactical situations.

Since the first national youth tournament held in 1985, the youth of America have changed the face of American Fencing. College coaches are now recruiting American fencers with years of experience as opposed to scouting the freshman class during registration for tall, athletic looking prospects.

Benefits of Fencing

There are many benefits to participating in youth fencing. Children learn good sportsmanship and self-discipline. They learn to compete independently as well as for a team; they learn to enjoy winning and profit from defeats, while becoming physically fit and healthy; and, most importantly, they learn to make complex decisions, analyze problems, and think fast. These ideals help children reach their potential in many areas other than fencing.

Bill of Rights for Young Athletes

We believe youth have the right to:

Be treated with dignity by all involved.

Fence as a child and not as an adult.

Fence regardless of skill level.

Fence at a level that is commensurate with each child's development.

Fence in a safe and healthy environment.

Have the proper preparation for fencing.

Have a qualified leadership for the sport of fencing.

Have an equal opportunity to strive for success.

Have fun fencing.

Your Role as a Parent

As a parent, your primary purpose is to support and encourage your child. Parents greatly contribute to the success experienced by their children as well as other children in the youth program. Parent's attitudes are often adopted by their children, who consult from their advice and approval. Parents, be aware of this and strive to become positive role models. Most importantly, this includes showing good sportsmanship at all times and respecting coaches, officials, and opponents.

Get your child to the club to train regularly. School obligations come first, so utilize school holidays for maximizing training opportunities. Training two months a year at a camp will yield very limited results. A consistent training curriculum is strongly encouraged.

It is important to let your child establish his own goals and play the game for himself. Help your child establish and achieve the goals he sets for himself. Avoid imposing your own goals or the coach's goals on your child. "Success," sometimes interpreted as "winning," comes at different ages for each fencer. Success in youth fencing is achieved if the program helps the child love fencing. Great achievement will occur when the child loves the sport.



The best way to help your child achieve his goals and reduce his fear of failure is through positive reinforcement. No one likes to make mistakes. When your child makes one, remember that he is still learning. Encourage his efforts and highlight the successes and the things your child did well. Your child will have good days and bad ones. Help him through the bad days and celebrate the good days he is fortunate to have. Fencing is a continuous struggle to improve from first-day beginner to Olympic Champion.

At fencing tournaments, take time to meet new people, visit different cities and see what they have to offer. Many lasting friendships have been formed between fierce competitors. Enjoy the full experience of competition by taking advantage of all the opportunities for growth.

Fencing – the Game

Fencing is played on a metal strip, or piste, which measures approximately 2 meters wide and 14 meters long. Points (or touches) scored in a bout are registered on an electronic scoring machine. The machine receives an electrical impulse when the spring tip of the foil or epee is depressed or, in Saber when there adequate contact with the opponent by the blade. The strip is grounded to prevent touches being accidentally scored on the playing surface.

In the preliminary rounds, each fencing bout is fenced for five touches, with a time limit of 3 minutes. In the later rounds, for all events except the Youth events, each bout is fencing to a maximum of 15 touches. The bout is separated into three rounds of three minutes, with a one-minute rest period between rounds. In the event that the score is tied when time has elapsed, the referee will randomly determine priority (with a coin toss or equivalent) for one fencer. Fencing will continue for one additional minute. The first touch to score ends the bout. If the score remains tied at the end of the additional minute, the fencer with priority will win.

In Youth events, the later rounds are fenced best two out of three 5-touch bouts, of three minutes each, with a one minute rest period between bouts. In the event of a tie score at the end of time, the bout will proceed as outlined above.

After the preliminary rounds, the fencers who are promoted will be seeded into a direct elimination table. In some formats, the winner advances, and the loser is out. In other formats, it requires two losses to be eliminated. In the format that is most common in National competition, the direct elimination continues until 32 fencers remain, and then, two losses are required to be eliminated.

The Tournament

At an individual event, all of the entries are seeded based on past performance in USA Fencing and international (Federation Internationale d'Escrime or FIE) competitions. They are divided into pools of five to seven fencers, which are balanced for strength and club separation based on the seed. Each fencer in the pool will fence a bout against each of the other members in the pool. After completion of the pool, a predetermined number of its members will be elevated to the next round.

After the pools are concluded, the promoted fencers will be organized from best record to worst into an elimination table of 16, 32, 64, or 128 fencers. This may be fenced in a single or double elimination tableau. In a single elimination, a fencer losing against an opponent is eliminated from the tournament. In double elimination, a fencer is eliminated after two loses. The finals of an event are fenced as a single elimination table of eight fencers.

Penalties

Penalties are divided into four categories.

Category One

All Category One penalties are interdependent. Upon the first occurrence of an offense during a bout, the fencer is warned and receives a yellow card. Committing any additional offense during the bout will result in the offender receiving a red card and the opponent receiving a penalty touch.

Category Two

All Category Two penalties are also interdependent. A fencer is given a red card upon first and any subsequent infraction during a bout.

Both Category One and Two infractions result in the annulment of a touch made by the offending fencer while committing the offense.

Category Three

Category Three penalties may be assessed for infractions against safety or the order of the competition. Such infractions can result in penalty touches (red card) or expulsion (black card) from the competition.

Category Four

The Category Four penalties involve unsportsmanlike conduct, using fraudulently modified equipment, collusion or brutality. The infractions result in automatic expulsion (black card) from the competition.

A complete listing of infraction and penalties is found in the USFA Rulebook.

Be Prepared to Wait!

Fencing events generally take all day. Unless your child does not move up from the initial rounds (pools), you can expect to spend a great deal of time in the venue. Be patient. The Bout Committee (BC) is working to get your child's event moving as fast as they can. Bring something that will help you pass the time – a book, knitting, a personal computer, etc. Of course, comfortable shoes are a must since you will be “on alert” during the entire competition (or at least until you learn more about the tempo of the competitive day at which point you will read, knit, or doze).

What to Bring to a Tournament

Fencing equipment listed below. Other items to consider: Medical Insurance Card and emergency contacts (especially if child is traveling without parent); small bills, checkbook and/or credit card/ATM debit card; books or other hobby/activity to pass the time while you are waiting; Band-Aids; mineral ice; batteries; sharpie/permanent marker; ice packs; water bottle; hair ties; camera with high-speed film, power cord; cell phone, and any other items you feel essential to your child's well being.

Regional Youth Circuit, Super Youth Circuit

The Regional Youth Circuit (RYC) gives fencers the opportunity to gain more experience before moving on to higher-level tournaments. The RYC & Super Youth Circuit Events are an excellent opportunity to compete against fencers from varying regions. RYC's are a qualifying path to participate in the North Cup Tournament and Summer Nationals. The Super Youth Circuit events are an opportunity for youth fencers to earn points and be placed on the National Rolling Point Standings (NRPS). Points can also be earned at a North American Cup event, Junior Olympics, and Summer Nationals. For more information on the Super Youth Circuit and the Regional Youth Program please visit www.usfencing.org.

National Tournaments

Once your child is performing locally at a consistent level and improvements are solid, your athlete may be ready to consider competing at a national tournament. USA Fencing runs several national tournaments: North American Cup (NAC), Junior Olympics, and Summer Nationals. National tournaments have entry rules/qualification paths that must be met before entering the tournament. These entry rules/qualification paths are listed in chapter one and chapter two of the Athletic Handbook.

Your child's first start at a national tournament should be in his/her age category. This might mean trying to qualify for the summer nationals. (See qualifying paths in the Athlete Handbook). Don't push your child to compete in every age event for which he/she qualifies; the same guidelines should apply as for local events. You and the coach should discuss what events would fit best in the overall training scheme.

Send the entry forms for National tournaments in a timely manner. Late entries require a triple late fee (3x's the total amount due). There are numerous ways to send in an entry. You may fax your entry for to the National Office (request fax back of receipt of your entry) scan and email, register on line or mail (enclose a self-addressed postcard). If you send via mail, we recommend using any service with a tracking number. Note, that sending anything return receipt requested tends to take longer to get to the recipient. Priority mail allows one to track the status of the packet and know when it arrives to the USA Fencing office.

Tournament materials and confirmed entrant lists will be posted on the website (www.usfencing.org) by USA Fencing and includes important information such as date, time of your event and directions to the venue and host hotel. Host hotels fill up quickly so make your hotel reservations as early as possible.

Hotel and transportation information can be found on the US fencing website. Plan to arrive at least one full day prior to the start of your child's event and leave the day after your child's last event. Taking the last flight of the day before an event is ill advised (due to possible flight cancellations). Never make travel arrangements on the same day as an event. Events may run longer than expected and the added stress of catching a flight is likely to affect your child's performance. Leaving an event before the athlete has been eliminated results in a black card. This means your child's name will not appear on the results list that is posted on the web, having been replaced by the words FENCER EXCLUDED.

International Tournaments

Once your child has earned national points and reaches a certain level in the national points standing, he/she may be eligible for international competition. Generally the top eight athletes in the junior or senior points standings are able to compete in World Cups. World Cups are tournaments for top-level junior and senior fencers from around the world to meet and compete.

Athletes may not enter themselves in World Cups. All entries must come from the fencing federation of each country. In addition, athletes must apply for an FIE license which is obtainable from USA Fencing. Applications to be considered for a world cup must be submitted to USA Fencing. The athlete is responsible for expenses to and from World Cups. The Junior and Senior world cup schedule for each season is posted on the USA Fencing web site as well as on the FIE web site (www.fie.ch) by mid summer preceding the start of the new season.

Equipment Fencers Need

Selection of fencing equipment is a key issue among coaches, parents and fencers. When purchasing and fitting fencing equipment, the fencer should be adequately protected and the uniform should allow freedom of movement to properly perform the necessary skills.

A full set of fencing equipment can be purchased for a relatively reasonable cost. You need not buy the most expensive equipment for your child to be protected and enjoy the sport. You may inquire at your local fencing club to see if used equipment is available. Properly maintained equipment can normally be resold. Some clubs may provide basic equipment for their novice classes.

Your child does NOT need to own FIE equipment. FIE equipment is only required for international events.

Following is a list of minimum required equipment. Make sure your child has the necessary equipment. Check weapons to make sure they are working before you leave for the tournament. Don't go to any event with non-working weapons. While it may seem compulsive, your child should check them again upon arrival; equipment can be affected by travel.

- Mask (sewn-in bib, must pass 12K punch test)
- Underarm protector
- Breast Protector (mandatory for women)
- Jacket (no holes, must close in back or opposite weapon arm)
- Lamé
- Knickers (no holes, must close in back or opposite weapon arm, must be overlapped by jacket by at least four inches.
- Glove (no holes except for body cord. Must cover approximately half the forearm)
- Long socks (white, must reach bottom of your knickers-soccer socks work well)
- Fencing shoes or sneakers
- Minimum two working weapons (epees must pass weight and shim test)

- Y10 fencers must use weapons with blades that are no longer than 32.5 inches. This includes both genders, and all three weapons.
- Minimum two working body cords
- Fencing bag (to carry your equipment in)
- Water Bottle
- Towel and plastic bag to hold wet equipment
- Tool Kit (screwdrivers for tip and pommel, spare screws, springs, Allen wrenches, small white cloth to use at base, small magnet, flashlight)
- Test Box and weight and shims will help avoid penalties on the strip for nonworking equipment

Put identification on all of your equipment!!!!

Washing Equipment

Wash as you would any other whites – do not use chlorine bleach. Lamés may be hung in the shower and spray rinsed and drip dry; some people use blow dryers. Masks may be washed in dishwashers (make sure to wash by itself). Washable gloves and socks per normal wash.

Fencing Facts

1. The United States Beijing Olympic Team brought home 6 medals in 2008. Our sport brought home the second highest number of medals which included the first three medals of the Beijing Olympic Games!
2. Fencing is one of only four sports to be included in every modern Olympic Games, since the first in 1896. Fencing was also a sport in the original Olympic Games in ancient Greece.
3. Baron Pierre de Coubertin, the father of the modern Olympic Games, was a fencer.
4. The tip of the fencing weapon is the second fastest moving object in sport; the first is the marksman's bullet.
5. Fencing is conducted on a 14m x 2m "strip" or "piste" to replicate combat in confined quarters such as a castle hallway. The end of the fencing strip represents the line drawn in the earth by duelists' seconds: to retreat behind this line during the duel indicated cowardice and loss of honor.
6. The 750 gram weight test used to ensure a touch is scored with sufficient force is based on the amount of tension required to break the skin. In a duel, honor was done when blood was first drawn – even if from a minor wound such as a blister.
7. The target area in saber, originally a cavalry weapon, is from the waist up because it is contrary to the rules of chivalry to injure an opponent's horse.
8. There was originally no time limit on a fencing bout, until a Masters Championship bout in New York in the 1930s lasted for seven hours. Thereafter, bouts were limited to 30 minutes. Today, the time-limit has been reduced to just 3 minutes for 5-touch bouts and 9 minutes for 15 touches.
9. Fencers wear white uniforms because before the advent of electronic scoring, touches were recorded on the white surface with a wad of ink-soaked cotton on the tips of the weapons.
10. Famous Fencers: Bruce Dickinson, the lead singer of Iron Maiden – foil. Neil Diamond, entertainer – saber. Prince Albert of Monaco – saber. Andrew Jackson fought a duel of honor with swords. General Georg Patton, competed in the 1912 Olympics and once owned a riding crop with a blade in the handle

by Georgio Santelli, New York fencing instructor and equipment manufacturer. Most recently, movie star Jerry O'Connell – saber.

11. The New York Fencers Club, founded in 1883, is the oldest continuous running club devoted exclusively to fencing in the U.S.
12. The first electronic scoring machine for fencing was invented in 1936 by Alfred Skrobisch, an engineering student at Columbia and a future U.S. Olympian.
13. Women's Foil was added to the events at the Olympic Games in 1924. Women's Epee was added in 1996. The 2004 Olympic Games in Athens, Greece was the first time that Women's Saber was an official part of the Olympic Program.



FAQ's

How can I contact USA Fencing?

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Colorado Springs, CO 80909-5774
Phone: (719) 866-4511
Fax: (719) 325-8998
General Email: info@USFencing.org

I am having trouble contacting someone in the office.

Please leave a message on that person's voicemail. Be patient. He or she will return your call. We have 20,000 USA Fencing members and 14 people working in the office. Please do not call everyone else in the office and leave messages for them also. That will lead to multiple phone calls back to you, after your question has been answered. This is frustrating for you and those returning your calls.

How can I get more information on fencing?

Please visit www.usfencing.org.

How do I find out about smaller, regional events?

Please visit our website for your Section or Division.

Did you get my entry?

This is a popular question, especially around deadline time. You can answer this question yourself by checking the Confirmed Entrant List posted on the website for each specific tournament.

Do you know the start times for [fill in the blank] tournament?

If they are not posted, we have yet to receive them from our Tournament Committee. Questions about this process may be referred to Tournament Services.

Am I or is my son or daughter eligible for [fill in the blank] tournament?

Eligibility requirements for each tournament are clearly printed on the entry forms and in the Athlete Handbook on the website. Questions about eligibility for international competitions should be referred to jeanna.mendoza@usfencing.org. Questions about eligibility for national competitions can be directed to t.brown@usfencing.org.

Do I need to qualify to fence in a North American Cup (NAC)?

You need to meet the age and eligibility requirements for the tournament that you wish to enter. These requirements may be found on the second page of the NAC entry form.

How can I fence in the Junior Olympics?

In order to fence in the JOs you must qualify. Qualification paths are listed in the Athlete Handbook, which is available free to download on our website, or printed from our office for a small fee.

How can I fence in the Summer Nationals?

In order to fence in the Summer Nationals you must qualify. Qualification paths are listed in the Athlete Handbook, which is available free to download on our website, or printed from our office for a small fee.

What is a classification?

A classification is a letter from A to E (with A being the highest) that is earned in competition. The classification reflects the skill level of a fencer. A classification includes the letter assigned as well as the year in which it was last earned, for example "A02", which would be an A earned in 2002. Classifications are valid for four years, at which point they revert to the next lowest letter, or unclassified, "U", if the classification has not been re-earned within the four-year period.

Why hasn't my classification been changed?

We haven't received the results from that tournament. The division, or bout committee chair of that tournament needs to send us the results for verification, and then we will change it. We change classifications only when we have official results justifying the change.

Where can I find the answers to the Referee study guide?

The simple answer is "in the rule book." The Fencing Officials Commission (FOC) designed the study guide, intentionally omitting the answers from the guide. The idea is that if you don't know the answer, you should look it up in the rule book. And if you DO know the answer, double-check it yourself against the rule book.

Who do I talk to about my referee rating?

The Fencing Officials Commission (FOC) is the group that conducts all testing for referee ratings. The FOC has established a web site with answers to questions regarding referee ratings and tests. Their website is available at <http://www.fencingofficials.org>.



Glossary of Fencing Terms

Advance: Taking a step towards one's opponent.

Attack: Movement or series of movements by which a fencer tries to score a point. In foil and saber, the fencer who attacks first acquires the "right-of-way." In order to execute an attack properly (i.e. one that the referee will acknowledge), the fencer's hand must be clearly extending towards their opponent's valid target in a threatening manner.

Beat: Sharp tap on the opponent's blade to initiate an attack or provoke a reaction.

Engagement: Contact between the fencers' blades – often as the prelude to an attack.

En Garde: Position taken before fencing commences.

Feint: A false attack intended to get a defensive reaction from the opposing fencer, thus creating the opportunity for a genuine attack ("feint-disengage attack")

Fleche: Explosive, running attack (Foil and Epee only)

Flunge: Action unique to saber – a combination of a lunge and a fleche. Evolved recently after the FIE modified saber rules in 1992 to prohibit running attacks.

Guard: Part action in which a fencer blocks his opponent's blade.

Parry: Defensive action in which a fencer blocks his opponent's blade.

Lunge: Most common attacking technique, in which the fencer launches themselves at their opponent by pushing off from the back leg (which generally remains stationary).

Piste: French term for the fencing strip.

Point-in-Line: Action in which the fencer, who is generally out of attacking range, points their weapon at their opponent with their arm fully extended. A fencer who establishes a point in line has right-of-way, and their opponent cannot attack until they remove the blade from line by executing a beat.

Recover: The return to the en garde position after lunging.

Riposte: Defender's offensive action immediately after parrying their opponent's attack.

Second Intention: A tactic in which a fencer executes a convincing, yet false, action in hopes of drawing a true, committed reaction from their opponent.

Stop Hit, Stop Cut(saber): A counter-action made at the moment of an opponent's hesitation, feint, or poorly executed attack. To be awarded the point, the fencer attempting to stop hit must clearly catch their opponent's tempo. Hence, if their Stop Hit is not "in time," the referee may award the touch to their attacker.

Strip: Fencing area, 14 meters long by 2 meters wide.

Classification Reference Chart

COMPETITION RATING	MINIMUM NBR COMPETITORS	RATED FENCERS REQUIRED	RATED FENCERS MUST FINISH	CLASSIFICATIONS AWARDED
GROUP E1	6	NONE	N/A	1 → E
GROUP D1 Changed per BOD 7/09	15	4 E's (or higher)	2 E's (or higher) in top 8	1 → D 2-4 → E
GROUP C1	15	2 C's & 2 D's & 2 E's (or higher)	2 C's & 2 D's (or higher) in top 8	1 → C 2-4 → D 5-8 → E
GROUP C2	25	4 D's & 4 E's (or higher)	4 D's (or higher) in top 8	1 → C 2-4 → D 5-8 → E
GROUP C3	64	24 D's & 12 E's (or higher)	4 D's in top 8 & 4 E's (or higher) in top 12	1-4 → C 5-8 → D 9-16 → E
GROUP B1	15	2 B's & 2 C's & 2 D's (or higher)	2 B's & 2 C's (or higher) in top 8	1 → B 2-4 → C 5-6 → D 7-8 → E
GROUP B2	25	2 B's & 2 C's & 2 D's (or higher)	2 B's & 2 C's (or higher) in top 8	1 → B 2-4 → C 5-8 → D 9-12 → E
GROUP B3	64	24 C's & 12 D's (or higher)	4 C's in top 8 & 4 D's (or higher) in top 12	1-4 → B 5-8 → C 9-16 → D 17-32 → E
GROUP A1 Changed per BOD 7/07	15	2 A's & 2 B's & 2 C's (or higher)	2 A's & 2 B's (or higher) in top 8	1 → A 2 → B 3-4 → C 5-6 → D 7-8 → E
GROUP A2	25	2 A's & 2 B's & 2 C's (or higher)	2 A's & 2 B's (or higher) in top 8	1 → A 2-4 → B 5-8 → C 9-10 → D 11-12 → E
GROUP A3	64	24 B's & 12 C's (or higher)	4 B's in top 8 & 4 C's (or higher) in top 12	1-4 → A 5-8 → B 9-16 → C 17-24 → D 25-32 → E
GROUP A4	64	12 A's & 12 B's & 12 C's (or higher)	4 A's in top 8 & 4 B's (or higher) in top 12	1-8 → A 9-16 → B 17-24 → C 25-32 → D 33-48 → E

Division I NAC and National Championships are always Group A4 competitions.

Division I-A National Championships are always at least Group A3 competitions.

Division II NAC and National Championships are always at least Group B3 competitions.

Division III NAC and National Championships are always at least Group C3 competitions.

Changes in classifications are allowed at USFA sanctioned individual competitions that are restricted to Veterans and to Junior fencers.

Division, Section and Regional Youth and Cadet competitions must meet or exceed criteria for C1 to award changes in classification. (BOD, July '02, July 03).

USA Fencing does permit classification changes at mixed competitions without regard to gender of fencers.



Tournament: _____

Competition: _____

Round: _____ Pool: _____ Strip: _____

Referee: _____

Barrage	#	1	2	3	4	V	TS	TR	Ind
	1								
	2								
	3								
	4								

Club	Name	#	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	V	TS	TR	Ind	PI
		1													
		2													
		3													
		4													
		5													
		6													
		7													
		8													

Warnings: _____

Pool of 4 6 Bouts	Pool of 5 10 Bouts	Pool of 6 15 Bouts	Pool of 7 21 Bouts	Pool of 8 28 Bouts	Special Bout Orders For Teammates			
					Pool of 6	Pool of 6	Pool of 7	Pool of 8
1-4	1-2	1-2 5-3	1-4 5-13-5	2-3 8-3 3-7	1-4 6-4	3-1 2-5	1-2 6-2 1-4	2-3 3-6 8-7
2-3	3-4	4-5 1-6	2-5 4-3 1-6	1-5 6-7 4-8	2-5 1-2	4-2 3-6	4-5 3-4 2-7	7-4 2-8 5-6
1-3	5-1	2-3 4-2	3-6 6-2 2-4	7-4 4-2 2-6	3-6 3-4	1-4 4-5	6-7 7-5 5-3	6-8 5-4 3-4
2-4	2-3	5-6 3-6	7-1 5-7 7-3	6-8 8-1 3-5	5-1 5-6	2-3 6-2	3-1 1-6 6-4	1-2 6-1 8-1
3-4	5-4	3-1 5-1	5-4 3-1 6-5	1-2 7-5 1-7	4-2 2-3	5-6 5-1	4-7 4-2 7-1	7-5 3-7 5-2
1-2	1-3	6-4 3-4	2-3 4-6 1-2	3-4 3-6 4-6	3-1 1-6	1-2 6-4	2-3 7-3 2-5	4-6 4-8 6-7
	2-5	2-5 6-2	6-7 7-2 4-7	5-6 2-8 8-5	6-2 4-5	3-4 5-3	5-1 5-6 3-6	1-3 2-6 8-3
	4-1	1-4		8-7 5-4 7-2	5-3	1-6		8-5 3-5 1-5
	3-5			4-1 6-1 1-3				4-2 4-1 7-2
	4-2	Same order for 3 teammates 1*2*3, 4*5*6		5-2	3 pairs of teammates 1*4, 2*5, 3*6	four teammates 1*2*3*4	3 teammates 1*2*3	1-7 3 teammates 1*2*3