



## European Fencing Confederation Sport and Technical Director

Report and decisions from the meeting with delegations on 21 February 2024 in Napoli

List of present countries (25):

AUT, BUL, CYP, EST, FIN, GBR, GER, GRE, HUN, IRL, ISL, ISR, ITA, LAT, LTU, MDA, NOR, POL, ROU, SLO, SRB, SUI, SVK, SWE, TUR

In the meeting the EFC Sport and Technical Director (STD) Report about the EFC Cadets Circuit 2023-2024 was discussed and regarding there mentioned issues following decisions were taken:

- 1) The forum of present federations decided to **keep status quo** of the current format of the Circuit **offering to same 8 organizers in each weapon the possibility for organizing their tournaments also in the season 2024 – 2025**. That decision was unanimously supported also by the EFC Comex, therefore the EFC Secretary General will invite concerned organizers to inform if they wish to continue in the coming season.
- 2) In the season 2023 - 2024 new rules were put in place for team events: despite admitted maximum participation of teams 5 per country, the point in rankings were always awarded only for one team per country. That way in the Championships 2024 the initial seeding of teams was based on the EFC season ranking (similarly as it is in the FIE juniors teams World Cup). The practice as well as the simulation of two versions of the initial seeding – one based on the season teams ranking and the second based on the ranking of teams members in the individual competitions in Napoli showed important difference and **it was decided that for the future the initial seeding of teams in the European Championships must be based upon results of the concerned team members in the individual competitions of the same Championships** in order to respect the real force of teams. N.B. mentioned simulation showed that the big difference in the mentioned two type of seeding is due to the fact that in the Circuit are basically participating club teams (sometimes even 5 from the same country) and practically almost never real national teams whilst in Championships are participating exclusively national teams.
- 3) Mixed teams. The development of the Cadets Circuit showed that originally agreed participation of mixed teams composed of fencers from two or more countries was justified in the beginning of the project because of relatively modest number of teams. However, the current state is completely different where almost all individual competitions are running with over 200 participants and often with table of T32 or event T64. Then the participation of mixed teams is losing the sense and even worse, it is complicating the smooth running of team events because of too complicated inscription procedure dealing with those teams. **The decision adopted was to cancel the possibility to accept mixed teams in the future.**
- 4) During this season 2023 - 2024 in all large teams competitions the delegations did not want to fence the all 16 places as the table started with T64 and often they simply left the competition for return home.  
Another situation was in the case where team's event preceded individual competitions. There the reasoning was that the teams are not willing to fence too many matches the day before individual competition, which is more important for them.  
Thus it was decided that **from the season 2024 – 2025 in team events only last 8 teams will fence their places.**

Bratislava, March, 2024

EFC Sport and Technical Director

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