



Julius Kralik <julius.kralik@gmail.com>

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## Information Letter no. 28-2015 -- Draft Minutes Montreux Congress

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**Max Geuter** <mwfgeuter@aol.com>

24. septembra 2015, 17:28

Komu: elena.shevchuk@nffu.org.ua, benedek.soproniszabo@hunfencing.hu, juanformosa@hotmail.com, fencing\_mda@yahoo.com, fed.escrime@monaco.mc, secretaris@knas.nl, mariusz.piasecki@nif.idrett.no, fencing@fencing.org.gr, skylmingasamband@gmail.com, secretary@irishfencing.net, israel.fencing.association@gmail.com, internazionale@federscherma.it, info@paukosana.lv, info@fechtavimas.lt, info@swiss-fencing.ch, kansliet@fencing.se, tef@eskrim.org.tr, scrima\_rom@yahoo.fr, fpe@fpe.pt, fedsamsch@omniway.sm, slovakfencing@mail.t-com.sk, rfee@esgrima.es, sabljaska.zveza.slovenije@gmail.com, evl@vehklemisliit.ee, dff@faegtning.dk, kubista@upcmil.cz, info@fechten.org, gfgeofencing7@gmail.com, fencing@fencing-pentathlon.fi, office@oefv.com, armfencing@gmail.com, bulfencing@gmail.com, info@fencing-belgium.be, guennady@mail.ru, im@pzzszerm.pl, yarmalcev@yahoo.com, headoffice@britishfencing.com, ffe@escrime-ffe.fr, hrvatski.macevalacki.savez@zg.t-com.hr, info@escrime-fle.lu, macedonian.fencing@gmail.com, mssrbije@gmail.com, oratco@cytanet.com.cy, bardhylminxhozi@gmail.com, aqf2012@mail.ru  
Kópia (Cc): fencinggeo@gmail.com, ptesch@100komma7.lu, ana@fencing.se, franci@tnet.cz, mwfgeuter@aol.com, nualamcgarrity@gmail.com, shklarv@bezeqint.net, marjaliisasomeroja@hotmail.com, tsoukhlo@mail.ru, ozidaru@yahoo.com, bvdf@flightelectronics.com, jeno.kamuti@gmail.com, julius.kralik@gmail.com, mannitt@tin.it, peterjacobs38@yahoo.co.uk

Dear Member Federations, hoping that you all have returned from your summer vacation, please find attached the draft minutes from our Montreux Congress with attachments.

Please also watch the deadline to nominate your candidate referees for the European Junior/Cadet championships in Novi Sad: 30.09.2015!

Best regards,

Max Geuter

General Secretariate

European Fencing Confederation (EFC)

Confédération Européenne d'Esgrime (CEE)

Hainbuchenweg 21 - D-82 194 Groebenzell-Muenchen

email: mwfgeuter@aol.com

Tel. +49 8142 597077 - FAX +49 8142 597079

[www.eurofencing.info](http://www.eurofencing.info)



**Draft\_Minutes\_Congress\_Montreux\_2015\_with\_attachments.pdf**

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**Draft MINUTES OF EFC / CEE CONGRESS**  
**5 JUNE 2015 at 10.00 h**  
**Montreux (SUI)**

**AGENDA**

1. Welcome address of the President
2. Validation of present federations and proxies
3. Approval of the minutes of the Ordinary Congress 2014 in Strasbourg
4. Annual Report of the General Secretary
5. Financial Report of the Treasurer
6. Report of the auditors
7. Budget of 2016
8. Designation of the auditor for 2015
9. Propositions of COMEX and federations
10. Presentations and vote on U-23 Championships 2016
11. Dates of the European Championships 2016 (Cadets/Juniors, U-23, Seniors)
12. Presentations / News of the European Senior Championships 2016 in Torun (POL), and Junior/Cadet Championships in Novi Sad (SRB)
13. Candidatures for 2017/2018 European Championships – Juniors/Cadets, U-23, Seniors
14. Date of the 2016 Congress in Torun (POL)
15. 1st European Games 2015 Baku
16. Miscellaneous

**FEDERATIONS PRESENT OR REPRESENTED**

<b>Federation</b>	<b>President</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Proxy</b>
<b>ALBANIA</b>	<b>Bardhyl Minxhozi</b>	<b>NO</b>	
<b>ARMENIA</b>	<b>Armen GRIGORYAN</b>		<b>Artesh Sedrakyan</b>
<b>AUSTRIA</b>	<b>Markus MAREICH</b>		<b>U. Hinterseer</b>
<b>AZERBAIJAN</b>	<b>Nazim IBRAHIMOV</b>		<b>Fikrat Valiyev</b>
<b>BELARUS</b>	<b>Sarhei NERAD</b>	<b>YES</b>	
<b>BELGIUM</b>	<b>Louis COOMANS</b>		<b>Olivier Bastyns</b>
<b>BULGARIA</b>	<b>Velichka HRISTEVA</b>	<b>YES</b>	
<b>CROATIA</b>	<b>Zeljko KVESIC</b>	<b>YES</b>	
<b>CYPRUS</b>	<b>Yiannis HADJIARAPIS</b>		<b>GRE</b>
<b>CZECH REPUBLIC</b>	<b>Oldrich KUBISTA</b>		<b>Tereza Stefflova</b>
<b>DENMARK</b>	<b>Jan Sylvest JENSEN</b>	<b>YES</b>	
<b>ESTONIA</b>	<b>Margus HANSON</b>	<b>YES</b>	
<b>FINLAND</b>	<b>Kalle LAINE</b>	<b>YES</b>	

<b>FRANCE</b>	<b>Isabelle LAMOUR</b>	<b>YES</b>	
<b>GEORGIA</b>	<b>Archil GOGELIA</b>		<b>David Sakhvadze</b>
<b>GERMANY</b>	<b>Lothar BLASE</b>	<b>YES</b>	
<b>GREAT BRITAIN</b>	<b>Hilary PHILBIN</b>	<b>YES</b>	
<b>GREECE</b>	<b>Emmanuel KATSIADAKIS</b>	<b>YES</b>	
<b>HUNGARY</b>	<b>Zsolt CSAMPA</b>	<b>YES</b>	
<b>ICELAND</b>	<b>Gudjon GESTSSON</b>		<b>LAT</b>
<b>IRELAND</b>	<b>Tom RAFTER</b>		<b>N. McGarrity</b>
<b>ISRAEL</b>	<b>Uri HARLAP</b>	<b>YES</b>	
<b>ITALY</b>	<b>Giorgio SCARSO</b>	<b>YES</b>	
<b>LATVIA</b>	<b>Erika AZE</b>	<b>YES</b>	
<b>LITHUANIA</b>	<b>Vytautas POLUJANSKAS</b>	<b>YES</b>	
<b>LUXEMBOURG</b>	<b>Pascal TESCH</b>	<b>YES</b>	
<b>FYROM</b>	<b>Zoran Stojanovich</b>		<b>SRB</b>
<b>MALTA</b>	<b>Juan FORMOSA</b>		<b>ITA</b>
<b>MOLDAVA</b>	<b>Olga COJOCARI</b>	<b>YES</b>	
<b>MONACO</b>	<b>Georges PRAT</b>		<b>FRA</b>
<b>NETHERLANDS</b>	<b>Wiebe MOKKEN</b>		<b>Etienne Van Cann</b>
<b>NORWAY</b>	<b>Junjie CAO</b>		<b>Mariusz Piasecki</b>
<b>POLAND</b>	<b>Adam KONOPKA</b>		<b>Tadeusz Tomaszewski</b>
<b>PORTUGAL</b>	<b>Frederico VALARINHO</b>	<b>YES</b>	
<b>ROMANIA</b>	<b>Mihai COVALIU</b>		<b>Marius Florea</b>
<b>RUSSIA</b>	<b>Alexander MIKHAILOV</b>	<b>YES</b>	
<b>SAN MARINO</b>	<b>Antonio PUTTI</b>	<b>NO</b>	
<b>SERBIA</b>	<b>Damir BARALIC</b>	<b>YES</b>	
<b>SLOVAK REPUBLIC</b>	<b>Miroslav BARANIK</b>	<b>YES</b>	
<b>SLOVENIA</b>	<b>Bostjan SMREKAR</b>		<b>N. Pusenjak</b>
<b>SPAIN</b>	<b>Marco-A. RIOJA PEREZ</b>	<b>YES</b>	
<b>SWEDEN</b>	<b>Lars LILJEGREN</b>	<b>YES</b>	
<b>SWITZERLAND</b>	<b>Olivier CARRARD</b>	<b>YES</b>	
<b>TURKEY</b>	<b>Murat ATALI</b>		<b>Bilgehan Baydil</b>
<b>UKRAINE</b>	<b>Pavel HAIDAI</b>		<b>Vadim Gutsayt</b>
<b>TOTAL 43 of 45</b>		<b>20</b>	<b>23</b>

## 1. WELCOME ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT

After opening of the Congress the EFC President, Mr. Janda, welcomed besides the participants from federations also members of honour, Mr. Kamuti and Mr. Bert van de Flier, representative of the FIE, Mr. Pietruszka, Mr. Scarso and Mrs. Pascu. Then, he gave the floor to representative of host federation, Mr. Olivier Carrard, who presented the venue chosen for Championships, which is famous Concert Hall of Montreux. Next speaker was Mr. Pietruszka who transmitted to EFC Congress greetings of FIE president Mr. Usmanov. He also mentioned important changes to be implemented into Statutes of Zones regarding the right of vote for FIE president because that is cited in FIE Statute and related documents of Zones have to follow it. Another important change in the FIE is creation of “Sport Directors of Zones”, who will closely cooperate with the FIE via FIE Sport Director Krisztian Kulcsar.

## 2. Validation of present federations and proxies

Prior to control of presence, Max Geuter informed that there are four new presidents: BLR, GER, ISR and TUR. After reading and confirming the presence Mr. Max GEUTER announced that 43 Federations out of 45 members were represented either by their President or by proxy. EFC President then cited main activities of the EFC since last Congress 2014 in Strasbourg. (Attachment No.1)

### **3. Approval of the minutes of the Ordinary Congress 2014 in Strasbourg**

Mr. Rioja (ESP) complained about missing information concerning candidacy of Barcelona for organization of qualifying tournament for Rio 2016, then it was found relevant article in the Minutes 2014 and the Minutes of the 2014 Congress held in Strasbourg were approved unanimously.

### **4. Annual Report of the General Secretary**

Mr. Geuter read it on the spot. One minute of silence was kept by the end of written Report. (Full version of the Report is in **attachment No.2**). President Janda then thanked Slovenian Fencing Federation and especially Nika Pusenjak for excellent organization of Cadets and Juniors Championships in Maribor (SLO) and also outstanding organization of European U23 Championships by Italian Fencing Federation in Vicenza (ITA).

### **5. Financial Report of the Treasurer**

Mrs. Nuala McGarrity explained first the issue of report of auditor where the EFC had to find new auditor after Mr. Philippe Burckle resigned. She thanked Italian and British Federations (Maurizio Annitto and Peter Jacobs) who take over that task. Then she commented documents submitted to all present delegates dealing with accounting of the EFC covering last period.

### **6. and 8. Report of the auditor and Designation of the auditor for 2015**

President Janda noted that according to LUX legislation the EFC needs not an external auditor in order to pay a sum of 2000 EURO and proposed to choose every year 2 representative of national federations with purchase of highest number of licenses who could take over that task. POR expressed its disagreement with proposed procedure. Then Nuala McGarrity suggested using Italian auditor who did very good job for current report what was unanimously accepted by delegates.

The Congress approved unanimously submitted Report of the auditor.

### **7. Budget of 2016**

Nuala McGarrity presented draft of the budget for 2016, which is based on data from previous periods therefore it is only basic version because exact income of the EFC is not known by the date of the Congress. Proposed budget for 2016 was approved.

### **9. Propositions of COMEX and federations**

No proposals were presented for the Congress 2015.

### **10. Presentation and vote on U-23 Championships 2015**

Mrs. Hristeva presented orally the candidature of Bulgaria for organizing **U-23 Championships 2016 in Plovdiv**. That will be part of celebration of 90 years of Bulgarian Federation. The candidature was accepted.

### **11. Dates of the European Championships 2016 (Cadets/Juniors, U-23, Seniors)**

Cadets and Juniors : 29 of February to 9<sup>th</sup> of March 2016 in Novi Sad (SRB)

U-23 in Plovdiv (BUL): 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> of May 2016

Seniors: 20<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> of June 2016 in Torun (POL).

President Janda then invited Mr. Rioja (ESP) to present candidacy of Barcelona for organising Qualifying tournament of Zone Europe for Olympic Games 2016. Mr. Rioja stated that Barcelona is well known beautiful city, which has very good conditions for organising that event in same spaces where traditional FIE World cup tournament is running and is ready to welcome delegations in 2016. Ms. Stefflova (CZE) noted that the only reason for proposing Prague was economic aspect because Prague is probably less expensive for delegations as Barcelona. The vote and the result: 41 votes in total, Prague: 23 Barcelona: 18. The tournament will be held in Prague.

During treatment of votes P. Tesch presented results of survey effectuated by EFC SEMI commission. (Attachment no. 3.)

**12. Presentations / News of the European Senior Championships 2016 in Torun (POL), and Junior/Cadet Championships in Novi Sad (SRB)**

Representative of Torun 2016 presented short report about preparation of Championships. Same brief intervention was done by representative of Serbian Fencing Federation regarding presentation of Cadets and Juniors Championships in Novi Sad.

**13. Candidatures for 2017/2018 European Championships – Juniors/Cadets, U-23, Seniors**

V. Hristeva informed that originally Bulgaria wanted to present the candidacy also for organization of European senior Championships 2017 but after discussion with Georgia, BUL resigned from that candidacy and would like to organize in 2017 European Cadets and Juniors Championships.

David Sakhvadze presented the candidacy of **Georgia for European senior Championships in 2017**. Mr. Janda noted that candidacy has big support from Government and relevant Ministry in Georgia.

Upon request of Velitchka Hristeva the Congress approved also attribution of **European Cadets and juniors Championships 2017 to Plovdiv (BUL)**.

General Secretary of Belarusian Fencing Federation presented the candidature of **Minsk** for organizing **European U23 Championships in 2017**. The Congress approved those candidatures.

**14. Date of the 2016 Congress in Torun (POL)**

Date of the Congress 2015 in Torun is 19<sup>th</sup> of June 2016.

**15. 1st European Games 2015 Baku**

Mr. Katsiadakis informed that at the meeting of secretaries general of NOC it was stated that fencing is not very popular sport, thus it won't be in the programme of next Games in Holland. Obviously the decision will be taken by EOC Board, however, it is important to make an effort for changing that opinion and make all for keeping fencing in the programme of European Games in the future.

Mr. Janda noted that he and FIE President Usmanov are aware of that situation and will act in order to achieve requested result – presence of fencing at European Games.

Mr. Van de Flier added that fencing can be in the programme but have to find its financing because organizers of Games will only finance more popular sports. Then there are 3 options:

- a) Games would be qualifying event for 2020 Tokyo
- b) Separate ECh and Games but remains the problem with financing
- c) There would be only ECh and no fencing at Games

He proposed to create working group who would study those 3 options and propose some decision.

P. Tesch is of the opinion that it is important to stay in programme of Games and according him it is probably best solution to not organize ECh in the year of Games.

J. Kralik informed about his discussion in Baku with P. Callaghan, where he expressed the opinion that Games could be in the same time European Championships.

M. Geuter supported that idea and reminded that similar situation was in the past where Olympic winner was declared also World Champion for that year.

F. Pietruszka objected that possibility arguing by necessity to have identical qualifying procedure for all continents what would be very difficult if we should apply it for Asian Games and even more difficult for using African Games for that purpose.

## **16. Miscellaneous**

A. Valero-Collantes presented shortly the issue of presentation of fencing in media underlining special actions of Italy, which makes big effort for spreading image of fencing. She also informed about meeting about media in fencing held in Moscow.

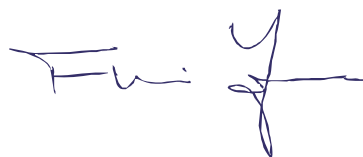
N. Pusenjak thanked at the occasion of meeting some people in Montreux who were absent at the very end of Championships for their help at organization of Championships in Maribor: M. Geuter, P. Tesch and E. Van Cann received a souvenir of the organizing committee in Maribor.

M. Geuter mentioned that the cooperation with the European Veterans (EVFC) continued by selecting the referees for their Championships and nominating a delegate.

No other matters remained EFC President Frantisek Janda thanking the participants closed the meeting.



.....  
Max W.F. Geuter  
EFC General Secretary



.....  
Frantisek Janda  
EFC President



## Intervention of EFC President, Frantisek Janda

Within the Project “European Referee 2015”, 52 seminars in 18 countries have been organized. About 600 European referees have been repeatedly trained. 95% of all Cadet Circuit and U-23 Circuit events are under the permanent control of the EFC Referees Commission. And this is huge amount of work.

Since this season, the EFC will start to grant proper referee licence “C” - Continental. I would like to thank Max, as the Chairman of the Referees Commission and all its members (Javier Lorenzo and Martina Ganassin) for their active work. Naturally, my thanks also go to the FFF Fund for financing these activities.

In cooperation with the FIE, we constantly explain to all European referees from “Elite” group and to all referees who judge at the World Championships or European Championships, that they are directly responsible for the level of refereeing in their home countries. It is their duty to train their colleagues within the Cadet Circuit and to work on the unification of rules’ interpretation within the meaning of the guidelines from the FIE Referees Commission. This is extremely important.

At the Congress in Strasbourg, I promised you to start the discussions about the new EFC Statutes. This issue has showed being more difficult and our activity caused extensive control of activities of all Zonal Confederations and their documents. This discussion was finished only at the FIE COMEX meeting in Tashkent. The requirements from FIE for additional changes in our Statutes were the outcome of this meeting. Therefore, we have moved this issue for this season.

Another outcome of these negotiations is also the closer connection between our TD and FIE Sport department led by Krisztian Kulcsar. FIE will also take over some of the costs for our Technical Directorate. I personally greatly praise the cooperation with Krisztian and thank him very much.

I also would like to inform you about the new trends in the FIE. Within the effort to obtain two sets of the Olympic medals and increase the number of accreditations, the FIE started to test new competition – MIX TEAM. MIX TEAMS are the way how to get these medals. FIE asked us to test various variants of this competition in Europe within the Cadet Circuit. If someone wants deeper explanation, I and especially Krisztian, we will be available after the Congress.

Big project focused on the Cadet Circuit competitions will be the main goal for this season. This project is led by Mr. Kralik and Mr. Tesch. Its main goals are:

- 1) Maximum unification of the conditions of competitions. We will already require higher standards of these conditions from the organizers.
- 2) Unification of the safety conditions, weapon control, organization of work, etc.

The costs of this project is about 20 thousands Euros and currently we are negotiating about its coverage with the FFF Fund, as well as with the FIE.

The cooperation with the Italian Federation regarding social media and promotion has started very well. Thank you, Mr. President Scarso! The EFC signed the contract with excellent photographer Mr. Augusto Bizzi. He will cover all European Championships including the European Games in Baku. Every day we will publish 100 – 120 photos including all ceremonies and photos of medal holders via EFC web and EFC Facebook. The contract includes sub-license for all European Federations. And you can use these beautiful photos for your local web sites, for newspapers and for further usage in promotion of fencing. You only have to state Copyright EFC and A. Bizzi. This is the service for all Federations.

The European Games in Baku are prepared at the highest level. Now, there is important task – to implement the next edition of the European Games into our calendar. It is necessary to start the discussion whether to organize the European Championships in the year of European Games, or not.

I would like to ask you about one very important matter. The EFC publishes all its money transfers and also gives all its accounting and economic activities under the public control of all Federations. At the same time, we run the independent audit, which is also published. After all discounts, we cannot get under the amount of 2 000 Euros for this audit. And according to the Luxembourg law, this audit is not necessary.

I would like to propose that the accounting control would be done by representatives of two Federations, which purchased the highest amount of the EFC licenses in previous season. We have precise statistics and the Federations are changing in various years. Two months before the Congress, we would invite these two Federations to set their controllers.

During the EFC Congress, the President or representative of respective Federation will give the report that for example Italian, German or Russian Federation verified the EFC accounting and what was its result.

This is cheaper option and I am convinced that for all of you this would be a sufficient guarantee that our accounting and economic activities are in good condition.

If you agree, we will implement this principle in amendment of our Statutes.

Dear colleagues, I would like to ask for little more of your attention. I want to express my point of view about one unpleasant matter.

It is quite clear that FIE or ABU perceive EFC as the representative of COMMON interests of EUROPE. And ONLY of common interests.

Because the Federations like Russia, Italy, Germany or France (the world leaders in our sport) are in Europe, all political issues or individual help is ALWAYS result of direct negotiations between the Federation and FIE. These negotiations are confidential and EFC has no information about them.

You have a RIGHT to turn to the FIE President, FFF Fund and FIE DIRECTLY and ask for help, advice or financial sources for your projects. This is perfectly fine.



However, when you ask for help or finances, please do not use the argument that you have to approach directly the President or Fund , BECAUSE EFC or President Janda do not help you.

This became very fashionable and similar statements appear very often.

This is not collegial and it is difficult to clarify to FIE President or representatives of Fund.

If anyone has such opinion, please say it here and now.



## European Fencing Confederation Confédération Européenne d'Escrime

### **Annual Report of the Executive Committee of the EFC/CEE for the 2015 Congress in Montreux**

Since the EFC/CEE Congress in Strasbourg (FRA) in June 2014, with a maximum participation of 43 of our 45 federations, the European Fencing Federations lost again a few of their well known personalities:

**David Tyshler (RUS)**, one of the first members of the Hall of Fame of the FIE, who died on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2014, just one day after our last year's congress, at the age of 86 in Moscow. Olympic Bronze Medal winner with his sabre team 1956 in Melbourne and 7<sup>th</sup> place in individual in Rome 1960, multiple medals at World championships in the years 1955-1959, author of numerous books on fencing, decorated fencing master in the former USSR, and eponym of fencing schools in Russia and South Africa.

**Petro Azarchenkov (UKR)**, international respected referee and since 2009 vice president of his federation, died on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2014 at the age of only 41 years after fighting against a serious illness. Known not only as one of the organisers of the 2008 European Championships in Kiev, he also participated many times at championships in various capacities. We will miss him at European Championships presenting medals to his successful Ukrainian fencers.

**Dame Mary Glen-Haig, DBE (GBR)**, FIE Member of Honour and Member of Honour of the International Olympic Committee, a former Olympic foil fencer, passed away at the age of 96 on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2014. From 1948 to 1960 she fenced on 4 Olympic Games, and represented Great Britain at 9 World Championships and several Commonwealth Games. From 1964 to 1986 she was the president of British Fencing. As the first female member of the IOC she served there for 12 years and was also a member of the IOC Medical Commission for 10 years. In a strong letter to the then IOC President, Juan Samaranch, she explained him the values of our sport – fencing.

**Mario Favia (ITA)** died on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2015. He became the first Junior World Champion in 1950 in Nizza and defended this title 1951 in Paris. Besides his profession as architect he was engaged in the administration of fencing, with many positions in the FIE and EFC. As member of the FIE Rules Commission and member of the Executive Committee he was nominated General Secretary from 1996 to 2004, after many participations as member or president of the DTs at Olympic Games and World Championships. As highly accepted referee he

also chaired the FIE Referees Commission during his time as General Secretary. In 1991 in Vienna he was one of the founding persons of the UEE (Union Européenne d'Escrime, later EFC/CEE), representing Italy. Besides being a Member of Honour of the Italian Fencing Federation with high decorations of the Italian Sport, Mario Favia became in 2001 Member of Honour of the FIE, later Vice-President of Honour of the FIE.

Also some good news has to be reported. At the FIE Congress 2014 in Rome the assembly voted in favour that all former and present members of honour will automatically enter the Hall of Fame. And the Congress also voted for five new members to be included: Pal Kovacs (HUN) post hum, Jean-Francois Lamour (FRA), Stanislav Pozdniakov (RUS), Mauro Numa (ITA), and Yashar Mammadov (AZE). This is certainly a big honour to European Fencing.

The Executive Committee of the EFC/CEE decided during the past season by various consultations about nominations and changes of DT members for Jerusalem, Tbilisi and Montreux, about the Coupe d'Europe in men's sabre, and about the Qualifying event for the 1<sup>st</sup> European Games in Baku and Olympic Qualifying for Rio. Besides this the COMEX had to decide about the audit of our financial report after the resignation of the former auditor, and selected Mr. Maurizio Annitto (ITA) and Peter Jacobs (GBR). The EFC Bureau met during the championship in Vicenza, and also met there with the Italian auditor Annitto. Also a meeting is scheduled for the day prior to this year's Congress.

The **27<sup>th</sup> European Senior Championships 2014** in Strasbourg (FRA) from 7<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> June were well organised by the Organising Committee of this event, although the expected large participation was not reached. Results are attached to this report. It must be mentioned here that this championship was for all federations financially possible – however, again still eight federations did not take this chance for their athletes (see attached documents!). The FIE offered a financial support to all federations to send at least one fencer to this zonal event, and also the EFC had offered a special financial support for 15 federations, and 10 of them accepted the offer, whereby we paid registration and referees fees, plus the registration fee for 1 team if they fenced also in the team events. Also prize money was given again to medal winners for both individual and team. Due to the good weather conditions also the expected spectators did not come as anticipated and created some financial problem for Strasbourg. The EFC is not to blame for some delays in the smooth running of the competitions; it was more or less caused by the integration of the European Wheelchair Championships. 20 volunteers, organised by Marja-Liisa Someroja, helped to organise this event in Strasbourg and certainly enjoyed their work being close to top athletes. Today, together with our Congress, we will also start our senior championships in this famous city of Montreux, famous for the yearly big Jazz Festival. The organisers have tried to satisfy all needs for participants and accompanying staff,

and of course are welcoming you all to visit not only the fencing venue but also the city sights.

At the Kazan Senior World Championships in July 2014 European fencers from 9 federations won 33 medals, allowing only 9 medals to China, Korea, USA and Tunisia. Also for this championship the FIE had invited a few European federations to a training camp, and paid a subsidy for all other federations to support at least one fencer to participate.

The **9<sup>th</sup> European Cadet and 23<sup>rd</sup> Junior Championships 2015** in Maribor (SLO) from 24<sup>th</sup> February to 5<sup>th</sup> March, organised by this young and small federation, brought a new record of participation at cadets, certainly a proof of the success with our Cadet Circuit. Also at the junior events we registered a large participation, nearly as large as in Prag 2007. Nevertheless, the Maribor organising team, with some help of the EFC, did a quite satisfactory job. And this will certainly encourage them to repeat in the years to come another event hosted in Maribor. As usual, details of the championships you find in attached documentation, also a sheet with medals from the Junior/Cadet World Championships in Tashkent.

The **8<sup>th</sup> U-23 Championships 2015** came back to Italy, where we started this event 2008 in Monza, this year from 21<sup>st</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> April in Vicenza. Everything was well organised in a large exposition venue, the opening ceremony and one final with medal ceremony were celebrated in the Teatro Olimpico in the centre of this city. Participation was much higher than in the last 4 years but did not reach the records of the first three championships. An organiser for the 9<sup>th</sup> edition in 2016 will be decided at this congress.

The EFC/CEE is once more very grateful to the courage of all these organisers and extends their thanks to the responsible persons in charge!

And the European veterans won 69 from 90 medals at the **18<sup>th</sup> World Championships 2014** in Debrecen (HUN), demonstrating again the lead in this category, putting USA, AUS, JPN, and CAN behind them.

Similar result can be reported from the 2015 Word Cadet/Junior Championships in Tashkent (UZB), where Europe won 44 out of 66 medals, dominating again this championship, leaving young fencers from the American, Asian and African continents the other 22 medals.

All European federations were regularly informed by information letters, 54 in 2014, and so far 17 in 2015. It would be very much appreciated by the office, if federations react on those letters when requested and forward them in their federation to the responsible persons. Some delays could be avoided and reminders less necessary.

The EFC was represented at the 2014 FIE Congress in Rome, at the Junior/Cadet World Championships in Tashkent (UZB) as well as at the World Veterans Championships in Debrecen (HUN) and at the recent European Veterans Individual Championships in Porec (CRO) with their annual Congress. It is now time to have more serious discussions with the EVFC to integrate them and their yearly championship into the EFC. In terms of referees we are already giving our assistance. The EFC also participated at a meeting in Brussels, organised by the EU and the European Olympic Committees.

The EFC General Secretary and the Technical Director together with the FIE Sports Director had a meeting with the responsible organiser for fencing of the first **European Games in Baku** (AZE) during the Qualification competition in Budapest, where additional information were given and problems discussed. We are now preparing for Baku, and the immense correspondence with various persons in Baku in the last two years is getting too much for an amateur EFC office. Julius Kralik with his team organised already a test event in May in the capital of Azerbaijan. A few volunteers from our part of Europe will assist the Games' staff in Baku. However, we heard with sorrow that the next organiser, the Netherlands, is not planning to include fencing in the 2019 Games.

Despite all our efforts, the **Coupe d'Europe** is still one of our small problems due to the international calendar. Good participation can only be noticed in men's and women's épée, and men's sabre is starting again to improve in Padua (ITA), hopefully also for the coming years. Ladies foil is getting again active in Bucharest, this year for the second time after several years of silence. Men's foil started this year with Rome another approach. The EFC will ask all federations to inform our office about the national results of their championships in order to be able to give details to the organisers of these competitions.

Positive news we can report again from the Cadets and U-23 Circuits which attract more and more interest in other confederations, especially the Cadets Circuit. In the season 2014/2015 we had a total of 7787 participating fencers from 39 European federations, 9 from Asia/Oceania, 3 from Africa, and 8 from the Americas. In Maribor the European winners of the Cadet Circuit were decided and received their compliment letter together with a prize coupon of 300 € to purchase fencing material. And also this year the winners of the U-23 Circuit have been awarded in Vicenza with the same prize award.

The referees project, initiated in the last season and financed by the FIE, was considered by the EFC Referees Commission as a success. Commission members and also selected FIE referees acted as "Referee delegates" at nearly all competitions, conducting small seminars and evaluating referees in order to optimize the quality of refereeing at this level. The final objective is to create a continental referee license (cat. C) and propose possible candidates to future FIE referees examinations. This project still has high priority within the EFC.

One of the past targets of the President was to pursue the possibility with the ERASMUS+ program of the EU in Brussels. A visit to the EU by the Treasurer and General Secretary, together with a potential assistant, did not bring the hoped results, due to expected heavy load of paperwork and involved bureaucracy. A new approach to this plan has to be decided by the COMEX.

You will find with this report again as attachment our documentation with a summary of purchased FIE licences, showing that the European federations are still far ahead of all other confederations.

And with regard to the statistics of participation we invite once more all former organisers of European Championships since Foggia (ITA) 1981 to check if they have additional information about details we are still missing in our historical files. So far we have not received any replies to this request.

We also want to put the attention of all federations to the 19<sup>th</sup> European Championships for Medical Professions, this year again in Bad Elster (GER), not under our guidance, but worthwhile to participate. It is open for all kind of medical care, also for students and apprentices of these professions. See our website for further details!

The FIE, with the examiners Irina Knysch (RSA) and Salah Ferjani (TUN) offered a refereeing examination in all three weapons for our Confederation in Maribor, and we were glad about the good result of these exams. From 53 candidates 47 passed the tests as B or P category referee. Only 6 did neither pass at the Video nor at the theoretical exams. Hopefully we can have a similar examination at the next European Junior/Cadet championships in Novi Sad at the conditions outlined by the EFC Referees Commission.

At the end of our documentation you find a little report with a summary of statistics of our website [www.eurofencing.info](http://www.eurofencing.info), prepared by Julian Seidl, our webmaster for this work. You are all invited again to help to make our website more attractive by sending information to Julian, more often than not at all!

Last but not least:

We can be proud on our Olympic sport – a clean sport without doping!

Let us all continue this way.

Max W.F. Geuter  
General Secretary



## Safety in fencing – a survey by EFC-SEMI

### Summary results

Presented by

Pascal TESCH  
Chairman EFC-SEMI  
[ptesch@fencing-efc.eu](mailto:ptesch@fencing-efc.eu)

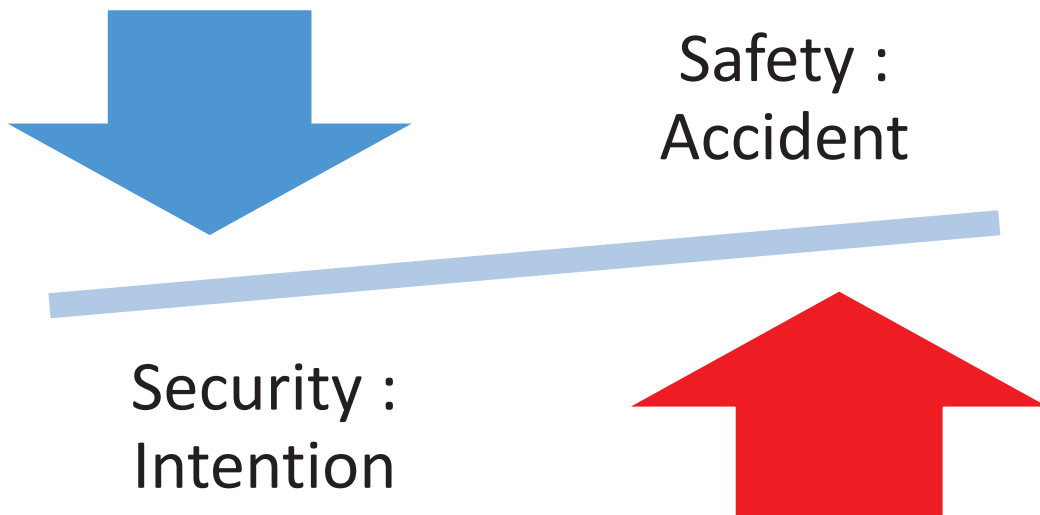


EFC-SEMI

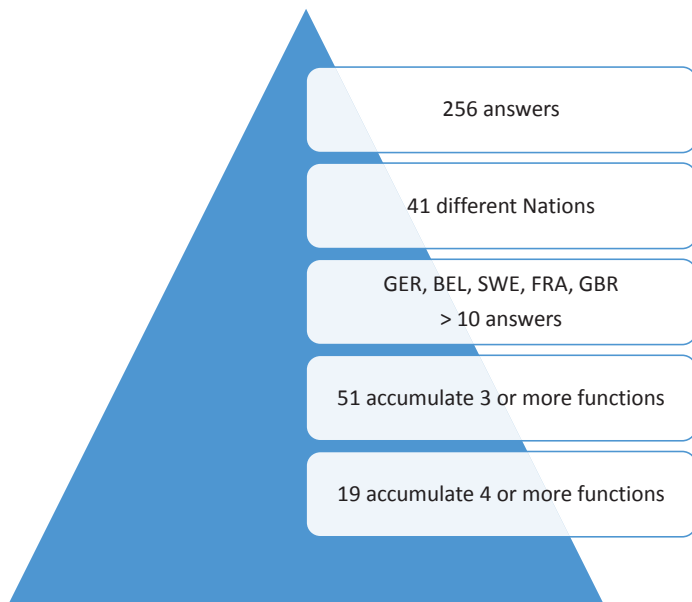
Pascal Tesch, chairman (LUX)

Stefan Clasen (SWE)  
Margherita Gnolato (ITA)  
Peter Huggins (GBR)  
Ivan Kovakin (RUS)  
Piet Wauters (BEL)  
Martina Zmaic (CRO)

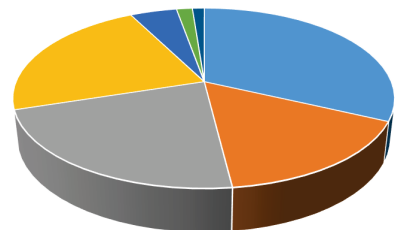
# Safety vs Security



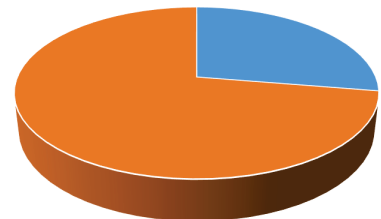
# The population



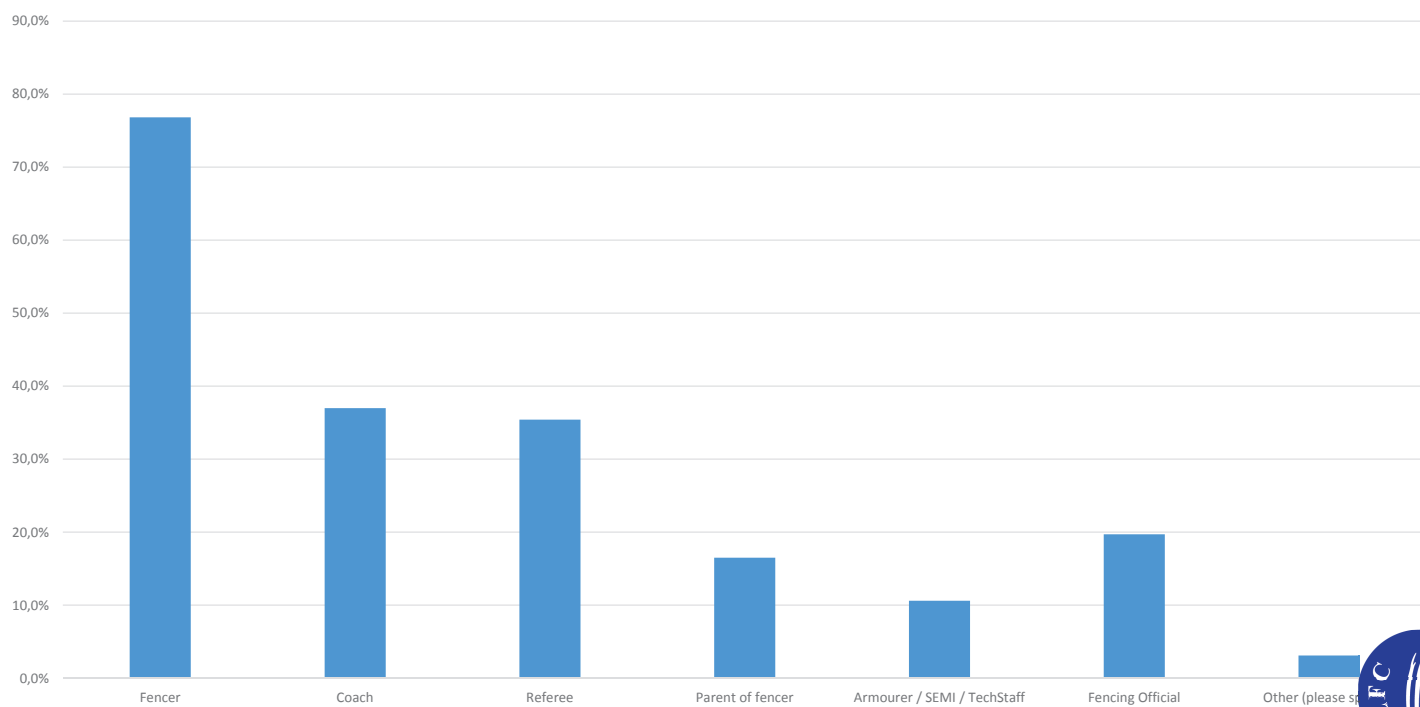
AGE of respondents



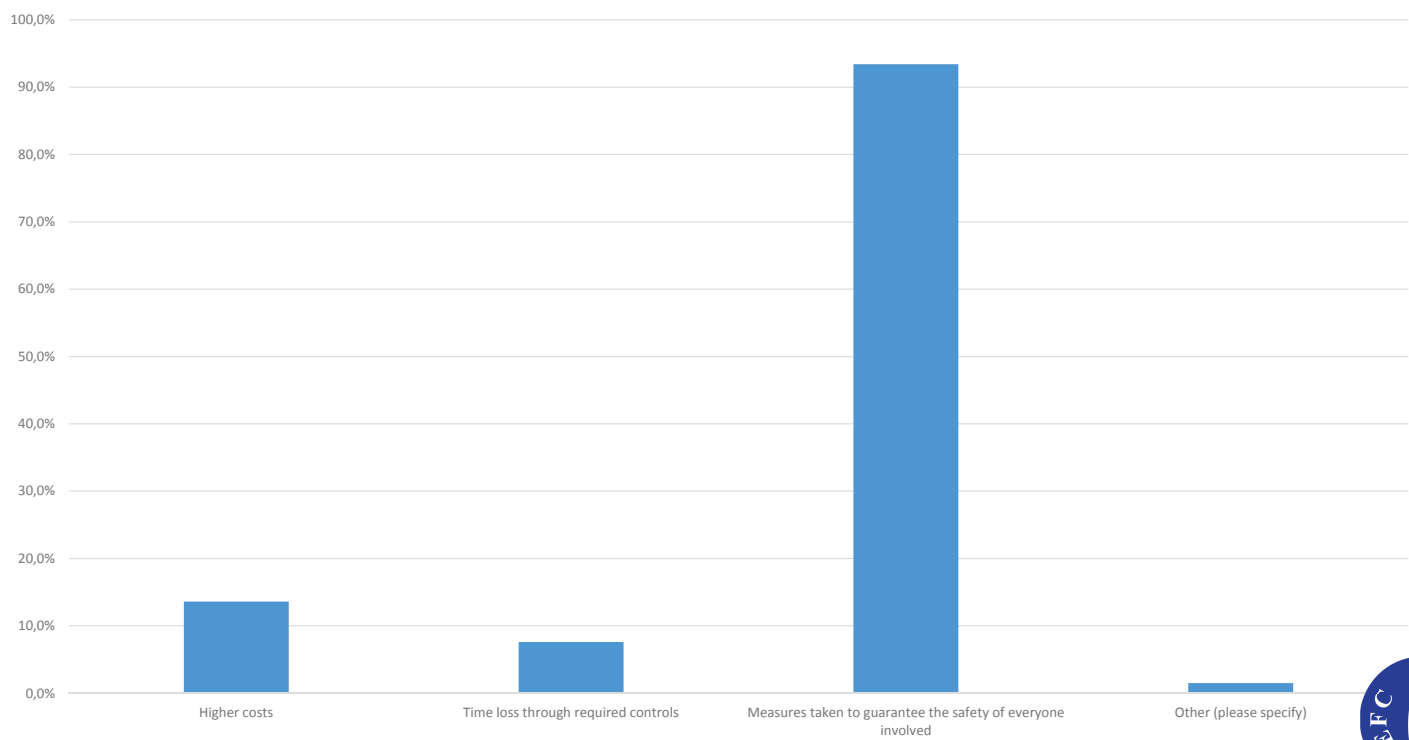
Gender



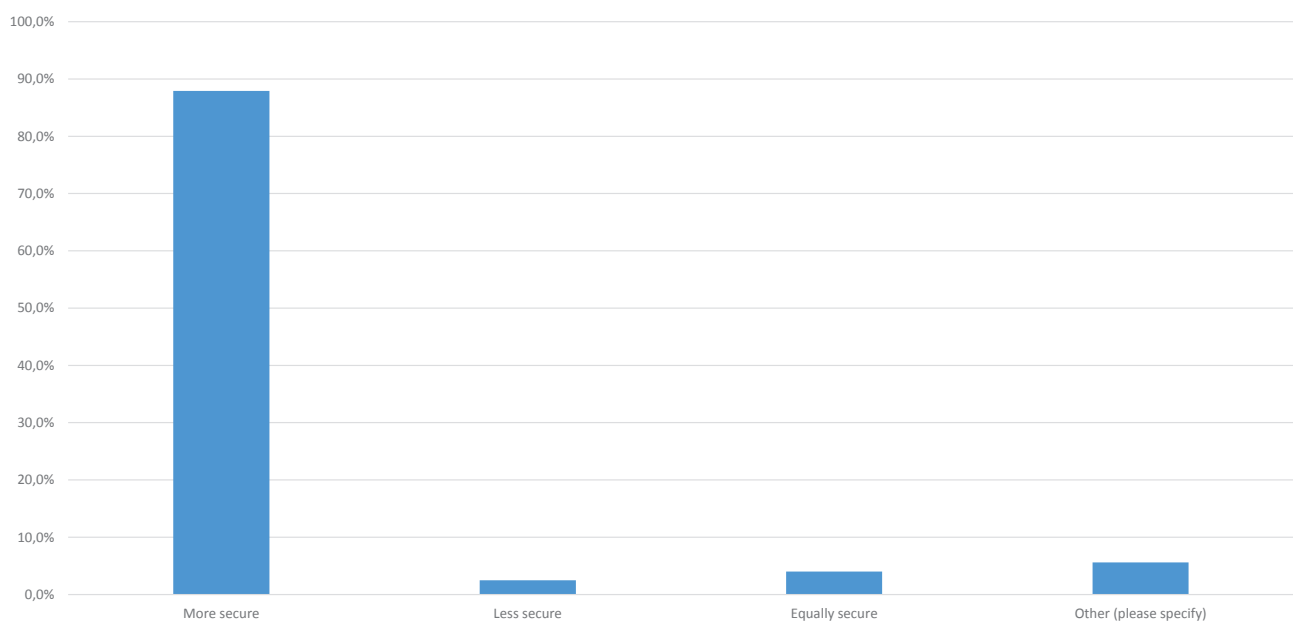
Qualification



### Perception



# Since 1982 fencing has become...





Comments

## Tests at every event

### basic tests should be mandatory (7)

Better Mask fixation (4)

Blades must be without sharp edges and within flexibility norm (4)

Some sort of mandatory reporting of serious incidents, even if no actual injury sustained (4)

Alter sabre tip (3)

Better socks to protect against accidents (3)

Training for weapon controller (3)

Designate a person responsible for safety (Material and Equipment Safety Manager (MESM)) (2)

Make free space between pistes larger (2)

Stop all action after passing (2)

The rules are good as they are (2)



## Conclusions and follow up

