



# Senior competition regulations

Issued: February, 2024

## Applicable events

The regulations set out in this document apply to **all senior events run under the auspices of Fencing Ireland**. Novice or intermediate events accepting entries from adult fencers must also follow all these regulations.

Any senior event run in the Republic of Ireland that wants their event listed on the Fencing Ireland website or makes use of Fencing Ireland competition equipment (pistes, scoring boxes, spools, etc.) must follow all these regulations.

Running an event under the auspices of Fencing Ireland and conforming to these regulations allows a competition to benefit from Fencing Ireland insurance for the event.

## Eligibility

### Membership

All must be current members of Fencing Ireland. Members of foreign fencing bodies must hold 'Associate' Fencing Ireland membership to be eligible to compete in Irish fencing events.

The only acceptable Fencing Ireland membership types to allow a member to compete are:

- Adult
- Youth
- Student
- Associate (with proof of membership in foreign fencing organisation)
- Life
- First

The following Fencing Ireland membership types are **not eligible for competitive fencing**:

- Supporter
- Adult leisure

### Age

To be eligible to fence in senior events (any event which does not set an upper age limit on entry, including novice events) fencers must be at least thirteen years of age or older on the day of the competition.

Under 18s must be accompanied by a suitable parent or guardian over the age of 18.

## Equipment

### Fencer personal equipment

For senior events all fencers must wear the following safety equipment:

- Plastron - min 800N
- Breeches - min 350N
- Mask - min 350N
- Glove - 800N for sabre, to be strictly enforced from start of 2024/25 season
- Fencing jacket - min 350N
- Socks pulled up fully to breeches

All gear must be in good condition, i.e. without holes, zips and velcro in proper working order etc., and must fit properly. As set out in m.25.7 of the FIE rules, "the mask must contain two different safety systems at the rear of the mask, with the two ends of the straps of the systems firmly affixed to the two sides of the mask."

Competition organisers must ensure that referees check all fencers for 800N plastrons at the start of each round of competition - poules, and each Direct Elimination match.

### Competition equipment

There should be adequate spacing between pistes and any obstructions/objects (walls, scoring boxes, fencing bags, etc.) to allow fencers, referees, coaches, and spectators to remain safe while in the competition hall.

Care must be paid to ensure the risk of tripping hazards is minimised. Pistes and cables must be affixed safely to the ground.

## First aid cover

All competitions must have access to first aid cover at all times. This may take the form of:

- first aid specialists hired for the event;
- staff cover in facility (must be checked by competition organisers in advance);
- specific nominated fencing event staff member/volunteer with first aid qualification.

## Reporting

Fencing Ireland requires that competition organisers provide reports regarding certain incidents. Reports are to be submitted online through the Fencing Ireland reporting system which can be found here: <https://forms.office.com/e/BBGmB5hNyS>

The Head of the DT is responsible for submitting reports. We ask that reports are submitted in a timely fashion, as soon as is feasible and no later than one week after the incident in question.

Reports are required on the following incidents:

- Injuries/incidents which require first aid intervention;
- Injuries/incidents which result in a fencer withdrawing from an event;
- Any other incident which about which the DT feels Fencing Ireland should be informed.

Please note, black card offences should be reported in accordance with the Fencing Ireland disciplinary policy and through the separate system for those incidents.

## Anti-doping

All competition entry forms must include anti-doping information to ensure all competitors are aware of their anti-doping responsibilities. The box below is the text Fencing Ireland uses on our competition entry forms for this purpose.

### Anti-doping

Doping is contrary to the spirit of sport and every member has a duty to ensure that the fencing is free of doping.

Fencing Ireland are compliant with the World Anti-Doping Code.

Any fencer competing in a Fencing Ireland competition is eligible for testing.

Under the 'Strict Liability' principle within the Anti-Doping regulations athletes are responsible for any substances in their body. The WADA Prohibited List is the comprehensive list of banned substances: <http://list.wada-ama.org/>

For more information on anti-doping rules and regulations please see the Anti-doping page on the Sport Ireland website - <https://www.sportireland.ie/anti-doping>

To report doping please go to <https://www.sportireland.ie/anti-doping/report-doping>

## Submission of results

Results of individual events should be submitted to Fencing Ireland after the completion of the event by emailing a results link or export of results to [competitions@irishfencing.net](mailto:competitions@irishfencing.net).

Exports of results are accepted in any of these formats:

- HTML
- CSV
- TXT
- XLS
- PDF

The following deadlines apply to the submission of results:

Tier A competitions: 72 hours after the completion of the event

Tier B competitions: 5 days after the completion of the event

Tier C/Unranked competitions: 2 weeks after the completion of the event

## Regulations administration

### Queries

Any competition organisers who have a query with regard to these regulations may address their questions to [cnouviaflynn@fencingireland.net](mailto:cnouviaflynn@fencingireland.net).

### Inspection

Fencing Ireland reserves the right to appoint inspectors to events to ensure compliance with these regulations. Fencing Ireland staff/board members are also empowered to deputise themselves as inspectors as required if they spot infractions of these regulations.

Inspectors may intervene to bring about a change in an organisation structure and/or submit a report to Fencing Ireland regarding events not applying these regulations.

## Sanctions

Fencing Ireland reserves the right to apply sanctions to events not conforming to these rules and regulations. Potential sanctions may include, but are not limited to:

- Downgrading of event ranking tier, e.g. Tier B event downgraded to Tier C;
- Removal of ranking points;
- Removal of permission for organising body to access Fencing Ireland equipment for future events for a set period of time;
- Removal of permission for organising body to organise Fencing Ireland sanctioned events for a set period of time, this includes not extending Fencing Ireland insurance to those events.