

AFF COMPETITION RULES

Except where overridden by a specific rule given herein, the standard technical and material FIE Rules for Competition, as translated into English by the British Fencing Association, as applicable for “World Cup” competitions, and always in their most recent version, are applied at events run under the auspices of the Australian Fencing Federation.

AFF TECHNICAL RULES

at.1. Where video refereeing is not used at AFF competitions, the relevant provisions of the FIE Technical Rules do not apply.

at.2. (Applicable only to Schools competitions at foil) At AFF schools events the target at foil (see t.77.2 of the FIE Technical Rules) is modified. In full, the rule becomes: The target at foil excludes the limbs and the head. It is confined to the trunk, the upper limit being the collar up to 6 cm above the prominences of the collar bones; at the sides to the seams of the sleeves, which should cross the head of the humerus; and the lower limit following a horizontal line across the back joining the tops of the hip bones, thence by straight lines to the junction of the lines of the groin. If a fencer chooses to wear a mask with a conductive bib (per FIE rules m.27.2 and m.27.3), then the target also includes the part of the bib beneath a horizontal line 1.5 - 2 cm below the chin which, in any case, may not be lower than the line of the shoulders (see Figure 4 in the FIE Technical Rules).

As a consequence, rules m.27.2 and m.27.3 are not applied at AFF Schools foil competitions when equipment is checked by Weapons Control or by the referee (cf AFF rule am.2).

at.3.1 (Modification to t.118 and the table of penalties)

- (a) When a fencer does not present himself to have his equipment checked by the referee within five minutes of the announcement of the start of pools/equipment checking by the Directoire Technique, the fencer shall receive a yellow card (warning) applicable for the entire pool (that is, he/she will begin each bout with a yellow card). The referee will inform the DT, which may choose to make a call for the fencer over the public address system. Independent of this, the referee will call for the missing fencer at one-minute intervals following the initial non-appearance. Each time the fencer misses one of these calls, a red card (hit against), applicable for the entire pool, will be awarded against the fencer. If the fencer has not appeared at the fifth such call, he/she will have automatically lost every one of his/her bouts in the pool.
- (b) When a team (i.e. at least three members of a team) does not present itself to have its equipment checked by the referee within five minutes of the announcement of the start of team match/equipment checking by the Directoire Technique, the team shall receive a yellow card (warning) applicable for the entire team match. The referee will inform the DT, which may choose to make a call for the team over the public address system. Independent of this, the referee will call for the missing team at one-minute intervals following the initial non-appearance. Each time the team misses one of these calls, a red card (hit against), applicable for the entire team match, will be awarded against the offending team. Note that this does not mean that penalty hits will be re-applied at the start of each relay, only that the consequence of already having received a red card will apply to Group 1 offences.

at.3.2 (Modification to t.119 and the table of penalties) During a competition, individual or team, if a fencer does not present himself on the piste, ready to fence, when ordered to do so by the Referee:

- The fencer or team member not present will be penalized with a yellow card (warning), applicable only to that bout or relay;
- The referee will inform the Directoire Technique, which may choose to make a call for the fencer over the public address system;
- After one minute has elapsed and the fencer has still not presented himself on the piste and ready to fence, then fencer will be penalized with a red card (hit against) and a second call will be made, by the referee, for the fencer;
- Calls will be repeated at one minute intervals, with a red card being awarded against the fencer for each missed call. This will continue until either: (a) the fencer presents himself on the piste, ready to fence; or (b) sufficient penalty hits are awarded to cause the opponent of the fencer to win the bout (individual events) or to cause the team match to progress to the next relay;
- In the case where both fencers have failed to present themselves, and penalty hits have been exhausted, the winner of the bout will be decided by drawing lots.

at.4. For the purposes of rule t.124 (unwillingness to fight), references to 'the higher FIE ranking':

- (a) subject to paragraph (b), in Part 1 (Individual events – Direct Elimination), will be taken to mean 'the higher AFF ranking in the relevant age category' or in the case where there is equality of ranking, will be taken to mean 'the higher seeding after poules at the event';
- (b) for all individual veteran events, in Part 1 (Individual events – Direct Elimination), will be taken to mean 'the higher seeding after poules at the event'; and
- (c) in Part 2 (Team events), will be taken to mean 'the higher seeding at the start of the event'.

AFF MATERIAL RULES

am.1. At epee, no part of the fencer's clothing or equipment (specifically, the mask, jacket, under-plastron, breeches, socks, shoes or glove) may have a conductive surface. This forbids, for example (but not limited to), the use of a foil mask with a conductive bib, a sabre mask, or a glove with a conductive cuff (as for sabre).

am.2. (Applicable only to Schools competitions at foil) The conductive part of the bib for foil, specified by FIE Material Rules m.27.2 and m.27.3 is optional at AFF Schools Competitions at foil.

am.3 The additional requirements for chest protectors which apply for foil only (as set out in the FIE Material Rules m.25.4.c do not apply to AFF competitions – other than the requirement that the chest protector be worn below the protective plastron, which does apply.

am.4 The amendments to FIE Material Rule m.25.7.f approved by the FIE Congress in November 2017 (introducing additional requirements for the two safety systems at the rear of the mask) will apply to AFF competitions from 1 January 2019.