AUSTRALIAN FENCING FEDERATION
NATIONAL COMPETITION POLICY

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1. General Principles

The purpose of the Australian Fencing Federation's (AFF) National competition circuit is to determine elite abilities.

It is also necessary that the format of competitions should:

- encourage participation by all eligible athletes
- recognise the limited resources of – equipment, referees and time
- determine champions without placing *unnecessary* physical demand on elite athletes
- not discourage young athletes in junior events through lack of fencing (especially important for the "*not advanced for age*" athlete).
- Provide a level field for all fencers to participate

2. National Tournaments

2.1. Australian Fencing Circuit

The Australian Fencing Circuit comprises the following events per season:

- National Under 13 Championships *(Boys & Girls individual and teams in all three weapons)*
- National Youth (Under-15) Championships *(Boys & Girls individual and teams in all three weapons)*
- National Cadet (Under-17) Championships *(Men's & Women's individual and teams in all three weapons)*
- National Junior (Under-20) Championships *(Men's & Women's individual and teams in all three weapons)*
- Australian Fencing Circuit events *(AFC#1, AFC#2, AFC#3, AFC#4)* (*Senior and Veterans Men's & Women's individual in all three weapons)*
- National Senior Championships *(Men's & Women's individual and teams in all three weapons,)*
- National Australian Veterans Championships *(Men's & Women's individual and teams in all three weapons)*

The host can elect to have their Australian Fencing Circuit event declared as a named event for the season. Each year we have 2 named events, the DH McKenzie Memorial Tournament and the Robyn Chaplin Memorial Tournament.

In addition, Australian club teams events are available for one of the Australian Fencing Circuit #1, #2, #3 or #4 tournaments per season, hosts may elect to add these events to their tournament. *(Men's & Women's Club Teams in all 3 weapons)*

2.2. Australian Youth/U13 Circuit

The Australian Youth/U13 Circuit, AYC, runs each season comprising:

- Australian Youth Circuit Events *(AYC#1, AYC#2, AYC#3)*
- With Youth events in Boys & Girls individual and special teams in all three weapons
- With Under 13 events in Boys & Girls individual in all three weapons

2.3. Australian Schools

- National Schools Championships *(Men's & Women's individual and teams in all three weapons, 2 grade level categories, fencers representing schools)*

3. Entry Eligibility

3.1. Eligibility for AFC / AYC events

Fencers are eligible to participate in all AFF AFC and AYC events where, for:

- affiliated Australian fencers, they:
  - meet any age group and AFF Gender Policy requirements,
  - have provided confirmation of their date of birth
  - are in good standing with the AFF
  - have the appropriate state membership for the tournament, equating to Competitive membership at the AFF level
  - must fence for their member state as defined in the AFF Residency policy.
  - have meet any requirements from their member state to participate, and are confirmed by their state
  - have paid the required entry fee
- international fencers, they:
  - have current affiliation with their national Association/Federation.
  - Must fence for their current country of affiliation. (This overrides the requirements in the affiliated Australian fencers section above.)
  - meet any age group and AFF Gender Policy requirements.
  - have provided confirmation of their date of birth.
  - are in good standing with the AFF.
  - have paid the required entry fee.
  - If they reside in Australian, they comply with the AFF Residency Policy.

Entries for tournaments are not limited, with the exception of the AFC Schools Championships where the numbers of entries per State/School may be limited to facilitate the effective organisation of these events.

3.2. Eligibility for AFF Schools Events

Fencers are eligible to participate in all AFF schools events where, for:

- affiliated Australian fencers, they:
  - meet the school age group requirements,
  - have provided confirmation of their date of birth
  - are in good standing with the AFF
  - have the appropriate state membership for the tournament, equating to Participate or Competitive membership at the AFF level
  - must fence for their School or nominate Home School.
  - have meet any requirements from their school to participate, and are confirmed by their school (not required for Home School)
  - have paid the required entry fee

4. Entry Information

4.1. Entry timings for individual events (excluding Veteran events)

- Early Bird Entries – Open up to 4:00pm (Sydney Time) on the 4th Saturday before the first day of the Tournament
- Normal Entries – Open from the close of Early Bird Entries and closes at 4:00pm Sydney Time on the 1st Saturday before the first day of the tournament. An additional fee is applied during this period
- Changes to entries will be accepted until 24 hours after the close of the normal period.
- No changes (except withdrawals) will be accepted after 24 hours from the close of normal entries.
- No entries will be accepted after the close of normal entries.

4.2. Entry timings for veteran events

- Entries are open until 4:00pm (Sydney Time) on the 1st Saturday before the first day of the tournament.
- Changes to entries will be accepted until 24 hours after the close of all entries.
- No changes (except withdrawals) will be accepted after 24 hours from the close of all entries
- No entries will be accepted after the close of all entries.

4.3. Entry timings for team events

- Team events at AFC Championship tournaments
    - All team entries must be provided by 4:00pm (Sydney Time) 4 days after the close of all individual entries, or as advised by email by the NCC.
    - Changes to team entries will be accepted until 24 hours after the close of the Team entries.
    - No changes (except withdrawals) will be accepted after 24 hours from the close of team entries.
    - No new teams will be accepted after the close of team entries.
- Club teams events
    - All team entries must be provided by the close of the individual event entries.
    - Changes to team entries will be accepted until 24 hours after the close of the team entries
    - No changes (except withdrawals) will be accepted after 24 hours from the close of team entries
    - No new teams will be accepted after the close of the team entries.
- School team events
    - All team entries must be provided by the close of the individual events.
    - Changes to team entries will be accepted until 24 hours after the close of the Team entries.
    - No changes (except withdrawals) will be accepted after 24 hours from the close of team entries.
    - No new teams will be accepted after the close of team entries.

4.4. Refunds

- For non-Veteran individual events
    - Refunds of the entry fee will be provided for any reason up to the close of Early Bird Entries
    - Refunds of the Entry fee will only be provided for medical reasons after the close of Early Bird entries
- For Veteran individual events
    - Before the close of senior early bird entries, refunds of the entry fee will be provided for any reason
    - After the close of senior early bird entries, refunds of the entry fee will only be provided for:
        - medical reasons
        - not wishing to fence once an event is declared to be mixed
- For team events
    - Refunds of the entry fee will be provided for any reason up to the close of team entries
    - Refunds of the Entry fee will only be provided for medical reasons after the close of team entries

4.5. Minimum numbers and cancellations

Non veteran events require 4 entries minimum to proceed. Any event without 4 entries as of the close of the early bird entries, will be cancelled, and any fencer entered will be advised and their entry fee refunded.

For veteran events,

- if there are less than 4 fencers in one gender entered as of the close of the senior early bird entries, and there are at least 4 fencers for both genders of the weapon, the event will be declared mixed.
- If additional entries come in during the senior normal entry period, the NCC may determine to separate them.
- If there are less than 4 fencers for the Weapon total, both gendered events will be cancelled, and any fencers entered will be advised and their entry fee refunded.

5. Age Categories

The AFF runs competitions based on the following Age Groups.

- Senior events – Any eligible fencer who is at least 13 years of age as of the first day of the tournament.
- Junior events – Any eligible fencer who is:
    - at least 13 years of age as of the first day of the tournament; and
    - less than 20 years of age as of the 31 Dec on the previous year of the tournament.
    - Automatic exemption from the minimum age will be permitted for fencers who
        - are at least 12 years of age on the first day of the tournament; and
        - has achieved a top 16 at a Cadet AFC event or a top 8 at a AYC or Youth AFC event.
- Cadet events – Any eligible fencer who is:
    - at least 12 years of age as of the first day of the tournament; and
    - less than 17 years of age as of the 31 Dec on the previous year of the tournament.
    - Automatic Exemption from the minimum age will be permitted for fencers who
        - are at least 11 years of age on the first day of the tournament; and
        - has achieved a top 8 at a AYC or Youth AFC event.
- Youth events – Any eligible fencer who is:
    - at least 10 years of age as of the first day of the tournament; and
    - less than 15 years of age as of the 31 Dec on the previous year of the tournament.
    - Exceptions from the minimum age requirement may be considered by the AFF National Competition Committee on a case by case basis. These exceptions will only be accessed as per the following conditions:
        - The athlete is at least 9 years old as of the first day of the tournament.
        - the Athlete has achieved a podium in an Under 15, Under 14, Under 13 or Under 12 state championship level event.
        - must apply at least one week before early bird entries close to the NCC.
- Under 13 events – Any eligible fencer who is:
    - at least 8 years of age as of the first day of the tournament; and
    - less than 13 years of age as of the 31 Dec on the previous year of the tournament.
    - Exceptions from the minimum age requirement may be considered by the AFF National Competition Committee on a case by case basis. These exceptions will only be accessed as per the following conditions:
        - The athlete is at least 7 years old as of the first day of the tournament.
        - the Athlete has achieved a podium in an Under 13, Under 12, U11, or U10 state championship level event.
        - must apply at least one week before early bird entries close to the NCC.

- Veteran events – Any eligible fencer who is at least 40 years of age as of the 31 Dec on the year of the tournament.

For the School tournaments:

- Intermediate Schools – is any eligible fencer who is undertaking Year 7, 8 or 9 studies
- Senior Schools – is any eligible fencer who is undertaking Year 7, 8, 9, 10 11 or 12 studies.

6. Individual Event Formats

6.1. AYC Youth and Under 13 events and AFC Youth, Cadet, Junior and Senior events

The first round:

- seeded based on the national rankings as per the ranking Policy as of the close of all entries.
- will be poules made up of fencers ranging from 5-8, depending on the number of entries.
- The minimum and maximum number of fencers in the poules will never be more than 1 apart. Eg, poules of 6&7, or 5&6, etc.
- will be bouts up to 5 points with a maximum of 3 minutes of time

The second round

- will be Direct Elimination round, seeded based on the results of the first round.
- will be up to 15 points with 3 periods of 3 minutes for Epee/Foil and 2 periods for Sabre (break at first to 8 points).
- No play off for third place. Will have equal bronze placings.

6.2. For Veteran events

Entries for veterans events will be accepted under the following five age categories – 40+, 50+, 60+, 70+, and 80+. Rules for Non-Veterans Tournaments apply with the following exceptions.

Special rules apply in relation to Veterans Individual events:

- Where there are six or more fencers of both genders present, separate men's and women's competitions will be held. Separate men’s and women’s medals will be awarded.
- where there is four or five fencers of either gender present, and 6 or more of the other gender, or, four or five fencers of both genders present, competitions will include fencers of both genders in the poules round only, and separate men's and women's direct eliminations will be held; Separate men’s and women’s medals will be awarded.
- If there are less than 4 fencers in one gender, the competition will include fencers of both genders in the poules round and direct elimination rounds and will be considered a mixed event. Combined mixed medals will be awarded.
- The final determination of the makeup of the event will be at the discretion of the DT in consultation with the AFF Supervisor

Where a fencer withdraws from a Veterans event at any time up to and including roll call for the reason it will be a fully or partially mixed event, that fencer will be entitled to receive a full refund of their entry fee for that Veterans event.

Poule bouts are fenced to five hits, 3 minutes, while bouts in direct elimination are fenced to 10 hits, 2 periods of 3 minutes for Epee/Foil and 2 periods, break at 5 points for Sabre. In both cases no hits are handicapped for age category differences between fencers.

6.3. For Schools events

- Schools Intermediate will be seeded based on the National Cadet Ranking

- Schools Senior will be seeded based on the National Junior Rankings.
- First round will be poules made up of fencers ranging from 5-8, depending on the number of entries. The minimum and Maximum number of fencers in the poules will never be more than 1 apart. Eg, poules of 6&7, or 5&6, etc. will be bouts up to 5 points with a maximum of 3 minutes
- The second round will be a Direct Elimination seeded from the results of the first round. Consisting of bouts to 15 points, with 3 periods of 3 minutes.
- There will be no playoff for third place.

7. Team Events

The AFF hosts five different types of Team events.

7.1. Team events at Senior, Junior, Cadet and Youth Championships:

- Entries are accepted from AFF Member States and countries outside of Australia once payment of the relevant team entry fee has been received by the AFF.
- Each state/country can enter up to 2 teams in each weapon/gender event.
- Team entries are made via the AFF online entries system.
- Team Managers must be provided for the team entry to be accepted. They will be responsible for:
    - Providing the names of the team members to the DT when requested
    - Providing the fencers order for each match the team has
    - Are the only person to interact with the DT in regards to any issues or concerns re the team.
- Team Managers must announce themselves and check in with the Tournament Manager prior to the start of the team event.
- Team Managers may be a fencer in the team, a coach or support personnel.
- The names of the individuals comprising the team(s) must be lodged by the managers with the DT before the semi-finals of the relevant individual event, or as requested by the DT during the tournament.
- Fencers are eligible to be a member of a team based on the following criteria:
    - They met the eligibility criteria to enter an individual (not team) event of the same tournament as of the advertised individual entries closing date of the tournament.
    - For Australian member state teams, they must meet the requirements of the AFF Residency Policy and be confirmed by their state association.
    - For countries outside of Australia, fencers must represent the country they provided when entering an individual event for the tournament.
- A minimum of 2 teams are required to be entered for the event to be run.
- If, once all individual entries have closed, there are at least 2 AFF member associations which do not have enough fencers to enter a team for a particular team event,
    - an invitation via email can be made to register a mixed state team in the team event to the 2 or more states
    - No points will be gained by these mixed state teams for any overall trophies,
    - team entries must be provided 4 days after the date of the email invitation, or as advised by email by the NCC.
    - A member association can only be represented in one mixed team
- Once the DE has been published no further changes to team members will be permitted.
- Failure to present the full team as correctly entered for any match in the event due to fencers needing to leave the venue for travel once the DE has been published, will result in the team being excluded from the event. Additionally, the NCC may impose a fine on the Member association/Country of up to twice the entry fee of the team event.
- Seeding of teams will be seeded based on

    - the results of the named fencers from the related individual event. Should a fencer not have a result in the individual, they will be allocated one more placing as the lowest fencer from the individual taking part in the team event.
    - The best 3 results for each team will be combined to provide the team points
    - The teams will be placed in the Tableau, with the lowest points first.
    - The DT after discussion with the AFF Supervisor may determine to adjust the initial seedings to reduce the chance of 2 teams from the same member association/Country fencing in the first round of the DE (whether incomplete or complete)
- Team format will be direct elimination based on the team seeding. There will be no play off for third place.

7.2. Team events at Veteran Championships

- Entries are accepted from AFF Member States and countries outside of Australia once payment of the relevant team entry fee has been received by the AFF.
- Each state/country can enter up to 2 teams in each weapon/gender event.
- Team entries are made via the AFF online entries system.
- Team Managers must be provided for the team entry to be accepted. They will be responsible for:
    - Providing the names of the team members to the DT when requested
    - Providing the fencers order for each match the team has
    - Are the only person to interact with the DT in regards to any issues or concerns re the team.
- A minimum of 2 teams are required to be entered for the event to be run.Team Managers must announce themselves and check in with the Tournament Manager prior to the start of the team event.
- Team Managers may be a fencer in the team, a coach or support personnel.
- Once all team entries have closed, if there is only one team for a gender event entered, with one or more for the other gender event, the event will be declared mixed. If an event is declared mixed, then the states/countries will be advised and will have 4 days to adjust existing entries to accommodate the change, allowing for additional entries to be made by any State, where each State is permitted to enter up to two mixed teams.
- Alternatively, if an event is declared as a separate Men's and Women's event, made up of single gender teams, a State which would otherwise be unable to enter a team in either gendered event, may elect to enter one mixed team into the Men's team event.
- If, once all individual entries have closed, there are at least 2 AFF member associations which do not have enough fencers to enter a team for a particular team event,
    - an invitation via email can be made to register a mixed state team in the team event to the 2 or more states
    - No points will be gained by these mixed state teams for any overall trophies,
    - team entries must be provided 4 days after the date of the email invitation, or as advised by email by the NCC.
    - A member association can only be represented in one mixed team
- The names of the individuals comprising the team(s) must be lodged by the managers with the DT before the semi-finals of the relevant individual event, or as requested by the DT during the tournament.
- Fencers are eligible to be a member of a team based on the following criteria:
    - They met the eligibility criteria to enter an individual (not team) event of the same tournament as of the advertised individual entries closing date of the tournament.
    - For Australian member state teams, they must meet the requirements of the AFF Residency Policy and be confirmed by their state association.
    - For countries outside of Australia, fencers must represent the country they provided when entering an individual event for the tournament.
- Once the DE has been published no further changes to team members will be permitted.

- Failure to present all members of a team correctly entered for a match, will result in the team being excluded from the event. Additionally, the NCC may impose a fine on the State/Country of up to twice the entry fee of the team event.
- Teams will be seeded based on
    - the results of the named fencers from the related individual event. Should a fencer not have a result in the individual, they will be allocated one more placing as the lowest fencer from the individual taking part in the team event.
    - The best 3 results for each team will be combined to provide the team points
    - The teams will be placed in the Tableau, with the lowest points first.
    - The DT after discussion with the AFF Supervisor may determine to adjust the initial seedings to reduce the chance of 2 teams from the same State/Country fencing in the first round of the DE (whether incomplete or complete)
- Team format will be direct elimination based on the team seeding. There will be no play off for third place.

7.3. Australian Club Teams event.

- Entries are accepted from Australian Clubs as affiliated with AFF Member States and countries outside of Australia once payment of the relevant team entry fee has been received by the AFF.
- Each club/country can enter up to 2 teams in each weapon/gender event.
- Team entries are made via the AFF online entries system.
- Team Managers must be provided for the team entry to be accepted. They will be responsible for:
    - Providing the names of the team members to the DT when requested
    - Providing the fencers order for each match the team has
    - Are the only person to interact with the DT in regards to any issues or concerns re the team.
- Team Managers must announce themselves and check in with the Tournament Manager prior to the start of the team event.
- Team Managers may be a fencer in the team, a coach or support personnel.
- A minimum of 2 teams are required to be entered for the event to be run.
- The names of the individuals comprising the team(s) must be lodged by the managers with the DT before the semi-finals of the relevant individual event, or as requested by the DT during the tournament.
- Fencers are eligible to be a member of a team based on the following criteria:
    - They met the eligibility criteria to enter an individual (not team) event of the same tournament as of the advertised individual entries closing date of the tournament.
    - Fencers must represent the club/country they provided when entering an individual event for the tournament.
- Once the DE has been published no further changes to team members will be permitted.
- Failure to present all members of a team correctly entered for a match, will result in the team being excluded from the event. Additionally, the NCC may impose a fine on the Club/Country of up to twice the entry fee of the team event.
- Teams will be seeded based on
    - the results of the named fencers from the related individual event. Should a fencer not have a result in the individual, they will be allocated one more placing as the lowest fencer from the individual event taking part in the team event.
    - The best 3 results for each team will be combined to provide the team points
    - The teams will be placed in the Tableau, with the lowest points first.
    - The DT after discussion with the AFF Supervisor may determine to adjust the initial seedings to reduce the chance of 2 teams from the same Club/Country fencing in the first round of the DE (whether incomplete or complete)
- Team format will be direct elimination based on the team seeding. There will be no play off for third place.

7.4. AFC Schools Championships

- Entries are accepted from Australian Schools once payment of the relevant team entry fee has been received by the AFF.
- Each school can enter up to 2 teams in each weapon/gender event.
- Team entries are made via the AFF online entries system.
- Team Managers must be provided for the team entry to be accepted. They will be responsible for:
    - Providing the names of the team members to the DT when requested
    - Providing the fencers order for each match the team has
    - Are the only person to interact with the DT in regards to any issues or concerns re the team.
- Team Managers must announce themselves and check in with the Tournament Manager prior to the start of the team event.
- Team Managers may be a coach or support personnel.
- A minimum of 2 teams are required to be entered for the event to be run.
- The names of the individuals comprising the team(s) must be lodged by the managers with the DT before the semi-finals of the relevant individual event, or as requested by the DT during the tournament.
- Fencers are eligible to be a member of a team based on the following criteria:
    - They met the eligibility criteria to enter an individual (not team) event of the same tournament as of the advertised individual entries closing date of the tournament.
    - Fencers must represent the school they provided when entering an individual event for the tournament.
- Once the DE has been published no further changes to team members will be permitted.
- Failure to present all members of a team correctly entered for a match, will result in the team being excluded from the event. Additionally, the NCC may impose a fine on the school of up to twice the entry fee of the team event.
- Teams will be seeded based on
    - the results of the named fencers from the related individual event. Should a fencer not have a result in the individual, they will be allocated one more placing as the lowest fencer from the individual event taking part in the team event.
    - The best 3 results for each team will be combined to provide the team points
    - The teams will be placed in the Tableau, with the lowest points first.
    - The DT after discussion with the AFF Supervisor may determine to adjust the initial seedings to reduce the chance of 2 teams from the same Club/Country fencing in the first round of the DE (whether incomplete or complete)
- Team format will be direct elimination based on the team seeding. There will be no play off for third place.

7.5. Special Teams events

- Teams are created based on the fencers in the individual events only.
- A minimum of 2 teams of 3 fencers each will be created based on fencers in the relevant individual event, from those who wish to participate.
- A maximum of 4 teams of 4 fencers will be created based on fencers in the relevant individual event from those who wish to participate.
- Teams will be created by the DT after confirmation at the venue during the individual event of who wishes to participate in the event. Some fencers who came below 16th may have the opportunity to take part in the team event.
- The teams are seeded based on the results of the fencers in the individual event who wish to participate. Assuming the top 16 fencers are taking place, the teams will be as follows:
    - Team 1, fencers ranked 1,8, 9, 16
    - Team 2, fencers ranked 2,7,10,15

    - Team 3, fencers ranked 3,6,11,14
    - Team 4, fencers ranked 4,5,12,13
- Team format will be pool unique.
- For Epee/Foil events, the bouts will be for 3 points or 2 minutes, matches to 27 points.
- For Sabre the bouts may be for 5 points 3 minutes, matches to 45 points.
- The final format of the teams evet will be determined by the DT in consultation with the AFF Supervisor.

8. Podium Dress Standards

All AFF National tournaments have podium presentations (medal ceremonies). All athletes are expected to present themselves appropriately for these presentations and respect the importance of winning a medal at a national sporting event.

Unacceptable presentation attire includes Club tracksuits at National events, Australian Fencing Team uniforms, Olympic track suits, or generic tracksuits. Any exceptions (including those where an athlete wishes to wear a sponsor's promotional attire) must first be discussed with the Directoire Technique, who must have given their explicit permission prior to the presentation ceremony.

8.1. Championship events

For Championships Events in all age groups, including state teams at the events, all medallists must be dressed in their state tracksuit or uniform, or for fencers representing their countries (non Australian), their national tracksuit.

8.2. Circuit events

For Australian Youth Circuit and Australian Fencing Circuit events, all medallists must be dressed:

- in their state tracksuit or uniform, or for fencers representing their countries (non-Australian), their national tracksuit, OR
- if they do not have a tracksuit available, with the permission of their state representative and the DT they may wear Full whites

8.3. National School Events

For National School Events, all medallists must be dressed in their school tracksuit or uniform, or for fencers representing their countries (non-Australian), their national tracksuit

8.4. Club teams Events

For Club Teams Events, all medallists must be dressed

- in their club tracksuit or uniform, or for fencers representing their countries (non-Australian), their national tracksuit, OR
- if they do not have a tracksuit available, with the permission of their club team manager and the DT they may wear Full whites

Failure to present to the podium in appropriate dress standard, may result in the National Competition Commission issuing the fencer with a fine up to $150.

9. Awarding of Medals

The AFF awards to medals as per below.

9.1. For Youth, Cadet, Junior and Senior events

- for events with four or five competitors, a gold and silver medal will be awarded;
- for events with six or more competitors, then additionally two equal bronze medals will be awarded

9.2. For Veterans events:

- for events with four or five competitors, a gold and silver medal will be awarded;
- for events with six or more competitors, then additionally two equal bronze medals will be awarded
- For fully mixed events, mixed medals will be awarded;
- The highest placed fencer for each age category will be awarded a certificate of recognition (1-3 fencers per age group) or medal (four or more fencers per age group).
- Age categories, are as follows:
    - 50+ any person who is 50 years or more as of the 31 Dec on the year of the event.
    - 60+ any person who is 60 years or more as of the 31 Dec on the year of the event.
    - 70+ any person who is 70 years or more as of the 31 Dec on the year of the event.
    - 80+ any person who is 80 years or more as of the 31 Dec on the year of the event.
- The Age groups do not have a maximum age, therefor a person who is 65 years of age, will be considered in both the 60+ and 50+ age groups.

9.3. For all team events:

- gold medals are awarded to the winners,
- silver medals are awarded to the runner-up's,
- bronze medals awarded for the third place team(s)
- Where a Veteran's team event is fully mixed, a single set of medals will be awarded.

10. Field of Play

The AFF and State competition organisers will mark a field of play for all AFF competitions. FIE rules apply for entry into the Field of Play and athletes, coaches, and spectators must obey the direction of the DT with regards to the Field of Play during the tournament.

The AFF may implement accreditation procedures for entry into the Field of Play under the AFF Accreditation Policy.