

BRITISH VETERANS CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. General:

The championships are held annually over three days, starting on the first Friday in March. Men's and Women's Sabre is fenced on Friday, Foil on Saturday and Epée on Sunday.

3. Eligibility:

The championships are open only to paid up members of the NVA who hold a British passport.

3. Relevance:

The rankings from the British Veterans Championships are used to determine selection for representative events.

4. Medals:

Gold, Silver and two Bronze Medals will be awarded at each of the six weapons.

There are no separate age categories, but at each weapon medals are awarded for the highest placed competitor aged 40-49, 50-59, 60-69 and 70+.

5. Format:

Engarde will be used to run the competition.

There will be two rounds of pools followed by Direct Elimination.

There will be no separation on the basis of club.

5.1 Seeding

For the first round of pools fencers are seeded on the basis of their results in the previous two years' British Veterans Championships, with a greater weighting given to the more recent result. Any other relevant data may be taken into account to give as accurate a seeding as possible.

5.2 Rounds of Pools

- i) In the rounds of pools all bouts are to five hits or three minutes of fencing time.
- ii) If the score is equal at time, the one minute priority rule will apply.
- iii) In the first and second round, pool size is determined as follows:
 - a) If numbers permit no pool will be smaller than five or larger than six.
 - b) If numbers permit, pools will all be the same size.
- iv) Seeding pools will be deemed to have the same number of fencers. A dummy fencer is used to make up any shortfall. A fencer always wins against the dummy with a score that represents the performance of the fencer in the pool. If the fencer has 0 defeats, the score is 5-0. If the fencer has 1 defeat, the score is 5-1 and so on to a maximum of 5-4.
- v) In the second round of pools fencers are seeded on the first round results.

5.3 Direct Elimination

- i) There will be no elimination of fencers from the rounds of pools
- ii) Fencers will be ranked on the results of both rounds of pools

- iii) Bouts at Foil and Epée will be to 10 hits in two periods of 3 minutes with a 1 minute break after the first 3 minutes.
- iii) Bouts at Sabre will be to 10 hits with a 1 minute break when one fencer has scored 5 hits.

5.4 Abandon

- i) If a fencer withdraws during the seeding rounds of pools the outgoing fencer will be ranked in last place in the tournament.
- ii) If two or more fencers withdraw, they will be ranked in the last places, in the order of their original seeding.
- iii) If a fencer withdraws partway through a pool, the results of any bouts completed by the outgoing fencer will be ignored.
- iv) If a fencer withdraws during the Direct Elimination he/she will be deemed to have lost any incomplete bout.

6. Equipment:

It is the responsibility of each fencer to ensure that personal equipment complies with British Fencing guidelines.

The NVA recommends FIE standard clothing and masks for personal safety and requires maraging blades for the safety of others at Foil and Epée. Sabre blades must comply with current standards of stiffness and be dated 2000 or later.

The new rule regarding conductive bibs on the masks at Foil will apply at this event.

7. Organisation:

The organisers reserve the right to make any changes that they deem necessary to the smooth running of the competition.

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