



The Vets

National Veterans Association Volume XIX Issue 6 June 2006

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Leon Paul

GB VETS SUCCESS IN EUROPEAN TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

Once again, the NVA Great Britain Team kept British Fencing firmly on the map in the European Team Championships, held in Turku, Finland over the weekend of 25th-28th May this year.

The Championships were hotly contested by teams from Germany, Finland, Latvia, France, Russia, Italy, Norway, Netherlands, Hungary, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, Spain, Belgium and of course, Great Britain.

Our hosts organised the competition most efficiently, and the venue was a large 4 star "Holiday Club" hotel just outside the city, with a spacious, modern sports arena, gymnasium, swimming pool and variety of restaurants (ever tried Reindeer Pizza? – honest).

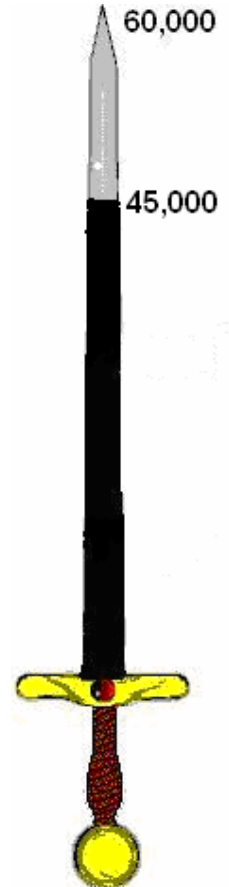
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Gold Medal Winners: Women's Sabre
Lynne Bornemisza, Sue Benney,
Jane Hutchinson, Yvonne Walls

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Friday saw the first events of the competition with the Women's Foil and Men's Epee. Our team comprised Hilary Philbin, Sarah Kellett, Clare Halsted and Jane Clayton. The first match was against Hungary and turned out to be a close result with Hungary the victors by 5-4.

Our ladies took a resounding 7-2 win against Finland, but then lost to France in the 3rd round 7-2.

In the D E, we came up against a strong Russian team who took 5 victories to take them into the next round. Germany beat the Russians, (who finished third) and then went on to defeat the Italians to take the Gold.

Our Men's Epee team of Howard West, Neal Mallett, Gerry Simpson and Ralph Johnson, took a convincing victory of 9-0 from the Netherlands in the first round, and beat Germany 5-4 in the second. This match saw an unsuccessful Jury called after a winning hit at "time" by Ralph with a score of 0-0 (we had an excellent photo of what would have been Ralph's winning hit, but it was not admissible!)

Having been seeded first after the poules, they received a bye then came up against Sweden who took a 5-1 victory to dash British hopes. Germany went on to take the title with Italy second and Sweden third.

Women's Sabre and Men's Foil was next on Saturday, and the Men's Foil team of Brian Causton, Nick Stokes, Jim Philbin and Geoff Silverman lost to both France and Hungary 5-4 in the poules.

They had scored sufficiently to make the last eight and a tough match saw them go out 5-4 to Switzerland who, in turn were beaten out of third place by Russia. The final was between Hungary and Italy, and everyone for miles around heard Italy take the victory 5-2.

Our Women's Sabre team comprised Jane Hutchison, Sue Benney, Yvonne Walls and Lynne Bornemisza.

They were up against strong competition from Germany, Italy and Russia and a poule unique was undertaken.

Our ladies showed how they meant to continue by first defeating Italy 8-1, and then Russia 6-3.

Germany always looked strong and posed the biggest threat to the GB squad, having defeated both Italy and Russia 5-4.

With the match against Germany at 4 victories each, it was up to Sue Benney if we were to take the Gold. Her opponent's weapon had been showing a fault throughout the match but she had been allowed to continue by the referee. Sue scored a further hit, and her opponent appealed against it on the grounds of her

faulty weapon. A Jury was called by GB, but we unfortunately lost this.

A very fired up Sue, after waiting on the piste for some ten minutes, then stormed her opponent to swiftly take the next two hits – and Great Britain had taken the Gold. Well done ladies, you made us all feel very proud at that moment.

On the final day, the GB Women's Epee team of Jenny Morris, Janet Cooksey, Kate Smith and Kate Elvin won their first poule match against Netherlands 5-4, and lost 4-5 to Italy. They then met the eventual winners, Germany and put up an excellent performance, but went out of the competition 5-3.

Our Men's Sabre team were Jim Philbin, Mark Hall, Chris Prevett and Richard Bonehill. In the poule they showed their determination by beating France 5-4, then Finland 8-1.

They came up against Latvia in the last 8 D E and were the victors 5-1. A tough match against Russia in the semi-finals saw the squad lose 5-3, but they had performed well enough for a fight-off for the Bronze and beat Germany convincingly at 5-2 to take the medal for Great Britain.

All in all, a very successful and highly enjoyable competition for all who took part, and for the supporters who witnessed our success.

Frank Mills



Men's Sabre Team
Richard Bonehill, Jim Philbin
Chris Prevett, Mark Hall

NVA Lottery 2006

The NVA Grand Summer Draw took place at the Novotel, Milton Keynes on Saturday 3rd June. There were 12 prizes in all drawn during the Age Group Qualifiers Competition Dinner.

59% of the membership did not sell any tickets, of the 41% that did contribute, 22% sold less than their allocation of 5 books, 17% sold/bought £50 of tickets, 2 people (0.6%) sold £100 worth of tickets and 4 members (1.3%) sold tickets to the value of £200 or more. The four highest sellers were Dave Sweeney (£200), Silvia Earl (£216), Gillian Aghajan (£230) and Richard Bonehill (£250). Richard generously donated the NVA prize of £250, for the person selling the most tickets, to the World Championship 2006 fund on the proviso that it was put in the Entertainment Manager's budget.

The sale of tickets generated £5,618 and after expenses the cash available for the World Championship fund will be approximately £5,100. The list of winners is given below.

Well done and thank you to all of those members who sold/bought tickets and contributed handsomely to the World Championship 2006 cause.

- 1st Prize - A holiday for two in Paphos, courtesy of Olympic Holidays
Winner - Pat Shepherd-Foster
- 2nd Prize - A weekend for two at the Radisson Edwardian Hampshire Hotel with Theatre Ticket Tokens
Winner - Karen Garvie
- 3rd Prize - A one night stay for two at the St James's Club and Hotel with Theatre Ticket Tokens
Winner - D. Tozer
- 4th Prize - Weekend for two in Cheltenham Spa including two nights at the Queens Hotel, dinner for two at the Le Petit Blanc Brasserie and a Pamper Day for the lady
Winner - Mullins
- 5th prize - Argentine Tango Workshop for four
Winner - N. Partridge
- 6th Prize - Dinner Bed and Breakfast Break at Uplands Guest House
Winner - D. Bradbury
- 7th Prize - A Gliding Experience
Winner - P. Hey
- 8th Prize - A Karcher Pressure Washer
Winner - A. Mullins
- 9th Prize - A £50 Leon Paul Voucher
Winner - J. Cooksey
- 10th Prize - A Karcher Vacuum Cleaner
Winner - J. Shackell
- 11th Prize - A Cordless Drill/Driver Set
Winner - S. Arrowsmith
- 12th Prize - Assorted Drinks
Winner - R. Smith



Thanks to our principle Sponsors Karcher UK and Olympic Holidays

CAPTION



COMPETITION

The standard is getting better and better. Thanks to all the contributors this month, several new names. My personal favourites: There are two this month, with a festive theme. Possibly a new career Dave?

Great Christmas Gift Ideas: number 1. Exclusive Indoor Ornamental Gnome. Paul Brenda.

So what did you think Santa does for the other 364 days of the year? Mavis (Mike) Thornton.

Be Afraid, Be Very Afraid!

If I watch that little referee without blinking I'm sure to get a pot of gold.

I'm going to sit here and hold my breath until I faint ...and then they'll be sorry.

Give us a kiss!

If you say "smile" once more I'll smack you.

Time to take up Boule?

Remind me -Why did I put a glove on my left hand?

The MRI Scanner made older medical skills redundant.

You can drink WHO under the table?

Why transparent visors will not catch on at foil.

At 4-all Dave had to take a short loo break.

Drugs testing confirmed the presence of Rioja.

Age Group Qualifiers: Milton Keynes.

The annual Age Group Qualifiers competition at Milton Keynes was fenced on the weekend of 3rd and 4th June to aid the selection of our team for the World Championships.

A hard fought competition for most age groups, Men's 50 and 60 epée and Men's 60 foil being particularly large, and talented, groups.

At dinner in the evening, after the friendly quiz (NOT) the lottery draw was held. The winning ticket pulled out was owned by Pat Shepherd-Foster, who was in the room. 11 other great prizes were distributed; see this newsletter for the full results.

Age Group Results

C1 EPEE

- 1 Anthony Klenczar: Men's prize
- 2 Paul Abrahams
- 3 Evert van Gemenen
- 4 Caron Hale: Women's prize
- 5 Jane Hutchison
- 6 Nigel Middleton
- 7 Tony Conyard
- 8 Andrew Gould

C1 FOIL

- 1 Graham Thornton: Men's prize
- 2 Andrew Gould
- 3 Paul Abrahams
- 4 Caron Hale: Women's prize
- 5 Tony Conyard
- 6 Jane Hutchison
- 7 Paul Winter
- 8 Martin Brown

C1 SABRE

- 1 Evert van Gemenen: Men's prize
- 2 Jane Hutchison: Women's prize
- 3 Andrew Gould
- 4 Pat Rees
- 5 Caron Hale

Men's Epée 50-59

- 1 Jonathan Stanbury
- 2 Ralph Johnson
- 3 Bob Brooks
- 4 Lawrence Burr
- 5 Ian Worthington
- 6 Malcolm Allton
- 7 Anton Pollard
- 8 Andrew Brown
- 9 Gerry Simpson
- 10 Jes Smith
- 11 David Stobbs
- 12 David Hydes
- 13 Tim Schofield
- 14 Richard Sweatman
- 15 Jim Harris
- 16 Iain Rugheimer
- 17 Simon White

Men's Epée 60+

- 1 Chris Green
- 2 Mick Meyer
- 3 Bob Turner
- 4 Peter Jacobs
- 5 Mike Bradbury
- 6 Simon Hartley
- 7 Bernard Harbourn
- 8 Tony Westacott
- 9 Jim Pilkington
- 10 Brian Speight
- 11 Tony Bardell
- 12 John Mason
- 13 Chris Farrell
- 14 Edmund Gray
- 15 Bob Perry
- 16 Colin Lutman

Men's Epée 70+

- 1 Jim Pilkington
- 2 Wynford Seymour
- 3 Bob Perry
- 4 Gordon Coombs

Women's Epée 50-59

- 1 Kate Smith
- 2 Kate Elvin
- 3 Fiona Haldane
- 4 Mavis Thornton
- 5 Jane Clayton
- 6 Gillian Aghajan
- 7 Silvia Earl
- 8 Janet Baron
- 9 Moya McNamara
- 10 Sue Hanney
- 11 Kate Francis
- 12 Julie Schofield

Women's Epée 60+

- 1 Janet Cooksey
- 2 Sylvia Brown
- 3 Carol Wengraf
- 4 Connie Adam
- 5 Ann Cornwall
- 6 Sheila Wicks

Women's Epée 70+

- 1 Connie Adam
- 2 Ann Cornwall
- 3 Diane Austin
- 4 Sylvia Brown

Men's Sabre 50-59

- 1 Richard Bonehill
- 2 Geoff Silverman
- 3 Malcolm Allton
- 4 John Norrie
- 5 Chris Prevet
- 6 Cary Zitcer
- 7 Paul Brenda
- 8 Mike Garrity
- 9 Richard Statton

Men's Sabre 60+

- 1 Andy Bornemisza
- 2 Peter Baron
- 3 Malcolm Cawton
- 4 Michael Compton
- 5 Joe Shackell
- 6 Tony Westacott
- 7 Rodney Greenhalgh
- 8 Gordon Coombs
- 9 Tony Bardell
- 10 Dennis Hunt
- 11 Wynford Seymour
- 12 John Croxon

Men's Sabre 70+

- 1 Gordon Coombs
- 2 Dennis Hunt
- 3 Wynford Seymour

Women's Sabre 50-59

- 1 Yvonne Walls
- 2 Lynne Bornemisza

- 3 Mavis Thornton
- 4 Vicky Garrity
- 5 Silvia Earl
- 6 Sheila Williams
- 7 Gillian Aghajan
- 8 Maggie Myers
- 9 Kate Francis
- 10 Myra Whall

Women's Sabre 60+

- 1 Carol Wengraf
- 2 Sylvia Brown
- 3 Pat Shepherd-Foster
- 4 Sheila Wicks

Women's Sabre 70+

- 1 Sylvia Brown

Men's Foil 50-59

- 1 Graham Paul
- 2 Geoff Silverman
- 3 Jim Harris
- 4 Steve Hannah
- 5 Roman Seniuk
- 6 Peter Roberts
- 7 John Norrie
- 8 Frederick Powell

Men's Foil 60+

- 1 Dave Sweeney
- 2 Simon Hartley
- 3 Mike Bradbury
- 4 Frank Mills
- 5 Tony Westacott
- 6 Peter Baron
- 7 Malcolm Cawton
- 8 Tony Bardell
- 9 Wynford Seymour
- 10 Brian Cramp
- 11 Chris Farrell
- 12 Dennis Willcock
- 13 John King

Men's Foil 70+

- 1 Dennis Willcock
- 2 Wynford Seymour

Women's Foil 50-59

- 1 Jane Clayton
- 2 Clare Halsted
- 3 Moya McNamara
- 4 Maggie Myers
- 5 Mavis Thornton
- 6 Kate Francis
- 7 Silvia Earl

Women's Foil 60+

- 1 Lynda Norrie
- 2 Janet Cooksey
- 3 Carol Wengraf
- 4 Sylvia Brown
- 5 Diane Austin

Women's Foil 70+

- 1 Sylvia Brown
- 2 Diane Austin

Cornwall

Pro Sabre



Join the future, enter the
Cornwall Pro Sabre
Individual Fencing Tournament

The Cornwall Pro Sabre is Britain's newest and most exciting sabre tournament. The Cornwall Pro Sabre is a professionally organised event, with prize money of £2500, coach transfers from airport to hotel and from hotel to venue, co-ordinated accommodation and entertainment, gala finals, and great presentation. We aim to offer everything missing from most British tournaments, and give the athletes the professional treatment they deserve.

The first Cornwall Pro Sabre Men's & Women's individual tournament takes place at Newquay Sports Centre on Saturday October 14th 2006.

£2500 Prize money will be awarded in Men's and Women's events as follows: 1st £350, 2nd £250, =3rd £150, 5th-8th £75, Best Cadet £50. **Best Veteran £50**. The event will earn points on the GB ranking list. Transfers are provided between Newquay Airport & the tournament hotel, & between the hotel & the venue.

Don't miss the new era of British sabre fencing.

For all details and entry form www.pro-sabre.com

Entry will be restricted by numbers so **ENTER NOW** and show the young bucks how to really fence Sabre!

St Dunstan's Epée and Foil Event

SUNDAY 18th June 2006

St Dunstan's School Glastonbury
An open competition with a Veterans Epée and Foil Competition
Still time to enter this event
Entry Forms from Sue Benny
sue@bennev.fsnet.co.uk
01458 831836

Left at the Age Group Qualifiers

1 Coach's black sleeve (minus arm....)

1 Sabre with Broken Blade.....! (Sad so sad...)

Please Contact Hilary Arnold

BEHIND THE SCENES: Malcolm Fare

You know that when you see a swan gliding elegantly along, under the water its feet are paddling frantically. Well, in terms of the World Veterans Championships Dave Sweeney is the swan – difficult to imagine, I know – but the feet are John Mason. He is the specialist software designer who has put together a system that, in theory, ensures that everything runs smoothly.

He began with the FIE's Handbook of Specifications, which identifies the main meetings that need to be held in advance of the event, the closing date, opening and closing ceremonies, medical cover, refereeing standards, etc. The first document he produced was the Project Overview, which defines the people who will direct the projects, the stakeholders, fencers, coaches and organisers.

It describes the project in a series of dependency diagrams. These are pictures of things to do related by sequence; for example, a website has to be published before entries can be accepted; entries have to be accepted before the competition can start. It is a way of taking a lot of details and ordering them to make the project easier to understand. A total of 12 activities were identified that all come together to make the project.

Design Documents

Each activity spawned a design document. This contained a list of tasks, identified manager roles responsible for tasks and the budget allocated to the activity. When a design document is completed, everyone should have the confidence that the activity will be successful because it has been thought out in detail.

After John had created the first draft of each document, the other members of the Steering Group reviewed it. The cycle of change and review continued until everyone was satisfied that the document was complete, was accurate and that the process would work.

The design process was well advanced when two organisation charts were produced: one for the work to be done leading up to the event and the other for the organisation during the event. Then people were allocated to roles.

The last document to be produced was the floor plan. This defined what facilities at Bath University were going to be used and described their location. Piste layouts were defined, and the location of armourers, weapon control, registration and information areas.

Website

John was keen to have a website for the event that would be visually appealing, contain all the information that fencers and team managers would need and be in a number of languages. A lot of work went into its design and you can judge for yourselves how well he succeeded at www.veterans-fencing.co.uk/wc2006. The fencing photograph from Karina Hoskyns is the visual link between all the pages.

Once the English version was agreed by the Steering Group, Peter Baron provided translations into French, German, Spanish and Italian. Chris Green at Activ8 provided the web space.

On-Line Entry

Another major piece of work John committed himself to was the provision of on-line entry and making the Internet the only means of entering. There are advantages to this: team managers key in their own data so transcription errors are eliminated; last minute changes are no effort for the organiser as the team manager makes the changes.

But designing the software was a complex task. Not only are there fencers to register, but also referees, officials, coaches and partners. People can book dinner tickets and can request transport to and from airports; they can even book accommodation in the University. The next escalation was to offer the entry website also in five languages. The final piece in the jigsaw was to give the FIE and the BFA (as well as the organisers) access to the data over the Internet so that they can see who has entered.

The WC2006 project has been the equivalent of a full-time job and will continue to be right up to the championships. So next time you see Dave, think of John.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DUNSTAN FOIL AND EPEE

June 18th 2006.

St Dunstons School, Glastonbury.

Open competition with a Veterans foil and épée competition.

Entry form from Sue Benney

sue@benney.fsnet.co.uk

01458 831836

World Veterans Fencing Championships, 1st-3rd September 2006.

University of Bath.

Selection will be based on the results of the NVA National Championships 2006 and the NVA Age Group Qualifiers 2006. Details will be circulated to those selected.

Middlesex Unisex Epée, 1st October 2006.

Middlesex University.

Open to all NVA members. Entry forms and details will be circulated with a later newsletter.

New Competition: Sabre

Cornwall Pro Sabre Saturday 14th October

Cash Prize for the best Veteran. See this newsletter for details

Veterans Team Challenge

Sunday 15th October

Loughborough

Contact Linda Lawes or Frank Mills and register your interest....This means you...

Xmas Fun Fence, Dinner and Dance, 18th November 2006.

Coventry.

Open to all NVA Members. Entry forms and details will be circulated with a later newsletter.

CORNWALL COUNTY SPORTS AWARDS HONOUR THE BEST.

Richard Bonehill who is the senior coach at the Truro Fencing Club has been named as Male Coach of the Year by the Cornwall Sports Partnership.

Cornwall's first sports awards, set up to honour the outstanding contributions made by dedicated sports coaches, officials, clubs, volunteers and young leaders from across the county were recently held in Truro.

The event organized by the Cornwall Sports Partnership supports all aspects of sport and physical activities in Cornwall and is the main funding stream for funds from Sport England.

Richard's dedication and passion for fencing has contributed greatly to the success of the Truro club who now field a large number of fencers at international level in all grades.

Unfortunately, Richard was unable to attend the awards ceremony as he was with the GB Vets team taking part in the European Championships in Turku, Finland.



Richard Bonehill, Gordon Coombs
With Age Group Medals

Veterans Notable Results Top half or last 32

Isle of Wight Open June 2006

Men's Epée (81)

7 Steve Tatner
18 Ian Briggs
22 Gerry Simpson

Men's Foil (80)

25 Tony Conyard

Women's Foil (25)

2 Dawn Townsend
7 Jenny Morris

Women's Epée (35)

J3 Jenny Morris

Your Chance to help: be trained as an Armourer.....

As part of the preparations for the World Championships in Bath the NVA are running courses for Armourers.

The following skills are addressed:

- a) Technical Skills – fault diagnosis and repair of a range of equipment
- b) Management Skills – weapon control processes and control.

It is proposed to identify a group of Candidate Armourers.

Candidate Armourers will be people new to armouery but who have an interest in fencing. They are often parents of young fencers or are fencers who are ready to give up the competition circuit but who wish to stay in the sport.

The group will attend formal training courses and then attend the WC2006 event. There they will observe at close quarters the best armourers we have and they will do useful work under close supervision of experienced armourers.

They will experience the pressure of a world class event and see how the best armourers perform.

They will be involved in the event from setting up the venue, running the competition through to dismantling the facilities.

The event will also be used to examine and promote suitable Armourers to Master Armourers, the most senior qualification of the Guild Of Armourers.

Technical Skills

Armouery requires technical knowledge of how fencing and scoring equipment works.

Scoring is achieved by making an electric circuit between a weapon and the opponent but the environment for electric circuits is unusually hostile: lots of movement, sweat, wear and tear, connections working loose, wires breaking. The armourer therefore has to be aware of the modes of failure and must have a systematic approach to determine which of the many components involved has failed.

The armourer then has to be able to dismantle equipment, replace the damaged part and rebuild under significant time pressure.

The issue is further complicated at an international level as:

- a) there are several different designs of equipment in use by different countries
- b) air travel adversely effects equipment so there is an exceptionally high level of repair activity as equipment is presented for inspection.

Management Skills

Weapon Control is a management skill rather than a technical skill.

Control at international competitions is designed to ensure that equipment used by competitors is of a consistent and legal standard. There are a number of checks that are prescribed for each item of equipment.

The management skill is to ensure that large amounts of equipment (up to 12 items per competitor) are collected, inspected and returned to competitors in a short window of time for the competition to start. Teams of 10-20 armourers are involved in a major event managed by a Weapon Control Manager.

It is proposed to give Candidate Armourers access to the design documents describing Weapon Control, to observe Weapon Control in action and to be able to question the best weapon control managers available in the UK.

Apply Now!

if you would like to become an Armourer, or know anyone in your area who would like to become an Armourer, please put the name forward to Peter Huggins, Tel: 01622 739 605 Email: pjhuggins@tesco.net.

Preference will be given to applications from the South West (as that region is sponsoring the training) but anyone may apply.

See application form with this newsletter.

John M

NVA SELECTION: WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

BATH, 1-3 SEPTEMBER 2006

Please note that selection is subject to the NVA appeals process and ratification. Any appeal should be sent to Dave Sweeney, in writing, to arrive no later than Monday 26 June 2006.

Fencers should notify Dave Sweeney of their acceptance as soon as possible, and no later than Monday 26 June.

Squads of 4 plus non-travelling reserves:

50-59	Women's Foil	Women's Epée	Women's Sabre
1	Hilary Philbin	Jenny Morris	Sue Benney
2	Jane Clayton	Kate Smith	Yvonne Walls
3	Moya McNamara	Kate Elvin	Lynne Bornemisza
4	Clare Halsted	Mavis Thornton	Jenny Morris
Res	<i>Sue Benney</i>	<i>Fiona Haldane</i>	<i>Hilary Philbin</i>

60+	Women's Foil	Women's Epée	Women's Sabre
1	Janet Cooksey	Janet Cooksey	Connie Adam
2	Lynda Norrie	Sylvia Brown	Carol Wengraf
3	Carol Wengraf	Carol Wengraf	Sylvia Brown
4	Janet Pearson	Connie Adam	Pat Shepherd-Foster
Res	<i>Sylvia Brown</i>	<i>Ann Cornwall</i>	<i>Sheila Wicks</i>

50-59	Men's Foil	Men's Epée	Men's Sabre
1	Tony Bartlett	Howard West	Richard Cohen
2	Graham Paul	Jonathan Stanbury	Richard Bonehill
3	Robert Bruniges	Ralph Johnson	Jim Philbin
4	Jim Philbin	Bob Brooks	Chris Prevett
Res	<i>Geoff Silverman</i>	<i>Lawrence Burr</i>	<i>Geoff Silverman</i>

60+	Men's Foil	Men's Epée	Men's Sabre
1	Brian Causton	Robin Davenport	Michael Compton
2	Dave Sweeney	Chris Green	Andy Bornemisza
3	Simon Hartley	Bill Osbaldeston	Brian Causton
4	Malcolm Fare	Mike Bradbury	Malcolm Cawton
Res	<i>Edward Ben-Nathan</i>	<i>Mick Meyer</i>	<i>Peter Baron</i>

Referees: to be confirmed

Team Manager: to be confirmed