

FIE MEDICAL HANDBOOK

MEDICAL COVER
FOR
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
GRANDS PRIX
AND WORLD CUP COMPETITIONS

The organisation of a competition of this importance requires certain duties and responsibilities concerning the health and physical well-being of the participants, of the people running the competition and of the public to be fulfilled. To this purpose it is essential that the organisers obtain the services of an experienced doctor to prepare in advance for the application of these Rules under the prevailing local conditions.

In fencing, accidents do not occur more frequently than in other sports but they can sometimes be very serious. Contingency plans must therefore be made for this possibility by taking the appropriate measures. These consist in particular of ensuring that an injured person will receive adequate medical care, including emergency treatment, from suitably equipped medical personnel, at any location on the competition site, without delay.

It is highly recommended that the organisers obtain a suitable insurance contract covering all the people at the venue.

The Organizers must confirm, in writing, that the requirements laid down in these Medical Specifications will be met, and must demonstrate the readiness of the facilities, personnel and logistical arrangements to the satisfaction of the FIE Competition Director during the preparation,

Medical coverage must be provided in the venue from the time organizers allow any fencing in the competition venue. This includes the day(s) before the competition begins (e.g., from the beginning of scheduled practice times) and the hour(s) before fencing begins each day. Additionally, local medical staff must wear clothing that is easily recognizable so athletes and others who need medical assistance can locate them quickly.

The various **services to be provided** are divided into five headings:

1. Medical Emergencies (life-threatening injuries).

1.1 - Personnel: (minimum requirement)

One locally licensed medical doctor or paramedic, who must be competent at and equipped for resuscitation, i.e. trained in Advanced Life Support.

- This is compulsory. This person must be present in the fencing hall **at least 30 minutes before** the start and for the full duration of the competition. If this requirement is not met, the competition will not be allowed to proceed.
- If the competition is to take place in two or more venues simultaneously, and these venues are separated from each other by a distance which makes it impossible for the Emergency personnel to get from their station to the additional venue(s) - with their equipment - in less than 2 minutes, the organisers must provide duplicate Emergency cover for each additional venue.

In case of any doubt, the head of the Organising Committee must clarify this fundamental issue with the Chairman of the FIE Medical Commission at least two (2) months before the competition.

1.2 - Equipment :

- resuscitation equipment (cardiac, respiratory) ;
- ambulance on-site, or on stand-by if it is demonstrated that it is able to reach the venue within ten (10) minutes (this must be verified).

1.3 - Logistics : good communication is absolutely essential:

- short-wave radios must be available for efficient communication between the emergency medical personnel, the FIE medical delegate and the Directoire Technique. The supply of these radios is obligatory **unless clearly superior alternatives (such as mobile telephones) are provided.**
- good public address system.
- efficient means to call **the on-site (or stand-by) ambulance** directly.

1.4 - Place : based at the First-Aid post / Medical Treatment room in the venue close to the competition area. **This place must be clearly signposted and medical staff must be clearly identifiable.**

2. Sports Trauma (less serious injuries).

2.1 - Personnel : a sports-medicine expert (doctor, paramedic or physiotherapist) competent and experienced in dealing with acute or chronic sports injuries.

2.2 - Equipment : Appropriate first aid equipment, including ice, compression bandages, stretcher, wheelchair, crutches.

2.3 - Logistics : communication by walkie-talkies **or similar (e.g. mobile telephones)**

2.4 - Place : based at the First-Aid post / Medical Treatment room in the venue close to the competition area.

NOTE: (1) For World Cup Competitions, the provision of services described in articles 1, 2 and 5 is an absolute requirement. Organisers are strongly advised to provide all the other services listed, but the provision of services described in articles 3 and 4 is not compulsory.

(2) If the Trauma doctor (2.1) or General Practitioner (3.1) is also competent in and equipped for Advanced Life Support (1.1), these roles may be combined.

3. General medical facilities.

- 3.1 - Personnel : one doctor (General Practitioner), and a nurse if available.
- 3.2 - Equipment : including bandages, plasters, drugs (kept under lock and key).
A current List of Permitted and Prohibited Drugs in Sport must be available.
- 3.3 - Logistics : [direct communication](#) with Directoire Technique.
- 3.4 - Place : at First-Aid post / Medical Treatment room (clearly sign-posted) in the venue close to the competition area.

4. Physiotherapy and Massage.

- 4.1 - Personnel : physiotherapist to attend fencers if needed (optional).
- 4.2 - Equipment : massage tables.
- 4.3 - Places : separate dedicated massage/physio facilities close to the First-Aid post / Medical Treatment room if possible..

5. Doping control.

- 5.1 - Personnel :
 - Doping Control Officer(s) (DCO) supplied by the Anti-Doping Organisation (ADO) to check that samples are collected strictly according to the regulations.
 - [Chaperones](#), one for each fencer selected for doping control.
- 5.2 - Equipment:
 - approved sample collection bottles, containers and [doping control](#) forms from the ADO.
 - sufficient, sealed, non-alcoholic drinks containing no prohibited substances.
 - secure cupboard/refrigerator.
- 5.3 - Logistics :
FIE [Anti-Doping Officer](#) (FIE Medical Delegate or [Supervisor](#)):
 - to liaise with DCOs and [Chaperones](#) before each [doping control session](#).
 - Transport to be provided, after doping control, for the late return of the personnel involved (medical staff, fencers, accompanying officials) to hotels.
- 5.4 - Doping Control Station:
 - to be located near to the Finals venue.
 - must include :
 - i) small room with table & 4 chairs, for processing samples, documentation,
 - ii) adjacent toilet (two toilets if males and females to be tested same day),
 - iii) waiting room large enough for each notified fencer plus accompanying official,
 - limited access (security control at entrance).

5.5 - IMPORTANT:

- Doping controls are obligatory at World Championships, Open Zonal Championships, World Cup competitions and Grand Prix (see FIE Anti-Doping Rules art. 5.6.1)
- The “*FIE Anti-Doping Officer*” who is responsible for co-ordinating doping controls at official FIE competitions will be the following person:
 - At the World Championships = the FIE Medical Delegate
 - At the Zonal Championships = the Zone Medical Delegate *
 - At World Cups and Grand Prix = the FIE Supervisor **

**Designated by the Zone or appointed by the FIE*

*** if these is no Supervisor the DT will assign one of its members.*
- Analysis of samples must be performed by IOC-accredited laboratories.
- A copy of each completed Doping Control Form (DCF) must be submitted to the FIE Medical Delegate/ FIE Anti-Doping Officer at the end of each Doping Control session.
- The FIE is the Test Authority and the Result Management Authority.
- The Laboratory must therefore be instructed to send all Analytical Reports to the FIE office in Lausanne

Additional Comments :

At World Championships, the official FIE. Medical Delegates are responsible for co-ordinating the requirements of the competition (in liaison with the Directoire Technique) and for dealing with medical incidents on and off the piste. It is therefore important that the Medical Delegates participate in the Referees Commission meeting prior to the start of the World Championships.

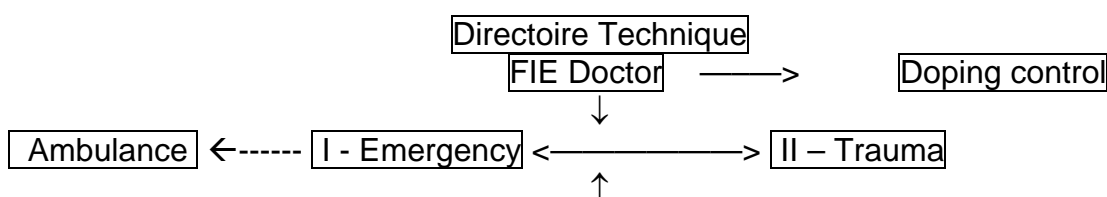
They should be allocated a position at or near the Directoire Technique waiting for any calls (see diagram below).

The FIE Medical Delegates must be alerted as a matter of priority by the referee if a fencer sustains an injury or falls ill on the piste.

A meeting of all medical staff involved is desirable on the day before the start of the competition. In the case of World Championships, this meeting can be broadened to include other specialists involved in sport to create a medical symposium or congress to encourage the exchange of medical and scientific knowledge useful for the sport of fencing. To this end, close co-operation between the medical representative of the organising country and a representative designated by the Medical Commission of the FIE is essential.

The location of First-Aid post(s) / Medical Treatment room(s) and places reserved for medical support teams at the venue must be clearly sign-posted.

Organisational Framework at World Championships



III – General Practitioner

(document revised by FIE Medical Commission, November 2011)