

“CHEVALIER FEYERICK” CHALLENGE

WINNERS

1940/1946: Mr Paul ANSPACH (†) (Belgium)

For the sporting and courageous way in which, during the war, he defended the interests and prestige of the F.I.E. in spite of the danger to himself; for the efforts made with a view to safeguarding the autonomy of the F.I.E. and for the work carried out after the war to return it to its former splendour.

1947: French Fencing Federation

For having adopted during the previous year in general, and among other things at the 1947 World Championships in Lisbon, a sporting attitude wholly in line with the development of the true international spirit of the F.I.E.

1948: Mr Emrys LLOYD (Great Britain)

For having, at the 1948 Olympic Games in London where he reached the final of the foil, provided new evidence of his fair play, of his sporting and gentlemanly fighting spirit, giving the example of a magnificent sporting spirit, to which he remained faithful during his long and brilliant career as a fencer.

1949: Not awarded, as the winner did not accept it for personal reasons.

1950: Italian Fencing Federation

For having played a predominant role during 1950 in the activity and development of international fencing, and for having given, through its success at the World Championships, the example of a Federation blessed with boundless energy, due to the selfless devotion of its leaders, and to the remarkable efforts of its fencers.

1951: Mrs Ilona ELEK (†) (Hungary)

For having, by the example of her career as a fencer, full of brilliant successes (three World Championship titles, two Olympic titles) and by the example of her sporting conscience, both as an athlete and organiser, made a useful contribution, in the spirit of the F.I.E., to the international development of women's fencing.

1952: Mr René LACROIX (†) (France)

For having, despite his great age, attended all the deliberations of the F.I.E. from the very beginning until the Conference of 1952, at which he bade farewell officially.

After having pushed for its foundation in 1913, he continued to give of his best in the cause of international fencing for the next forty years; his judicious advice, his provident spirit, the sensitivity of his comments, the perceptiveness of his judgement on the possible

consequences of any contentious issue, given unsparingly until 1952, represent for the young fencers of the future the best example of attachment to the F.I.E.

1954: Colonel Fernand VAN DEN HEUVEL (†) (Belgium)

For having, for fifteen years in succession, presided over and represented the Royal Belgian Federation of Fencing Clubs; for having devoted all these years to maintaining and improving International Fencing, and for having organised this year, 1953, with the success which everyone delights in recognising, the World Championships in Brussels.

1955: Egyptian Fencing Federation

For having demonstrated - during these recent years full of events which have shaken the existence of the Federation but not its spirit - its willingness to preserve intact all its energy and organisational skills, which all fencers have been able to appreciate in the past and which it demonstrated once again in 1955.

1957: Mr de BEAUMONT (H.M.) (†) (Great Britain)

Who, inspired by the sole concern of developing Fencing, was able thanks to his tireless devotion as well as his total selflessness, to induce the Federation of Great Britain to play a leading role in international competitions and in spreading the sport of fencing.

1959: Mr Edoardo MANGIAROTTI (H.M.) (Italy)

An exceptional fencer who, during an already long career adorned with glittering titles, has constantly set an example of magnificent moral and physical qualities, having been able to harmoniously combine the efficiency of pure classic fencing with the elegance of a constantly sporting attitude.

1961: Mr Pierre FERRI (H.M.) (†) (France)

Tirelessly devoted to the cause of sport he has, as President of the F.I.E., through his personal work, contributed to the development and spread of fencing throughout the world, and worked happily to strengthen the sporting friendship which unites the leaders of all the national Federations.

1963: Fencing Federation of the USSR

For the considerable progress made by it under the direct impetus of its skilled President Nikolai POPOV, and for having succeeded over the last ten years and in particular in the past two years in getting its representatives to the top in all global competitions, without once forgetting the purest sporting spirit.

1965: Mr Charles DEBEUR (H.M.) (†) (Belgium)

For having rendered inestimable services to the F.I.E. during the development of electronic signalling in fencing, for having devoted himself for several years to perfecting equipment, weapons, and eliminating any equipment deficiency. For having, moreover, studied and had

established all the measures indispensable to providing fencers with the greatest possible safety compatible with the exercise of their sport, and having managed, over the past two years, to allow all contests to take place free from any technical criticism.

1967: Mr Jersy PAWLOWSKI (Poland)

Not only for having brilliantly won the World Championship titles at sabre over the past two years, but above all for the friendly, extremely loyal and exemplary style in which he did so, thereby showing himself to be an example of the magnificent sporting culture which is that of the Polish Fencing Federation.

1969: Commander BONTEMPS (H.M.) (†) (France)

Vice-President of the F.I.E. from 1965 to 1968. For having devoted himself passionately for many years to the sport of fencing, for having shown himself to be an extraordinary organiser, notably by founding the competition of the World Championships for the under-20s in four disciplines, a competition whose increasing success each year is the best propaganda for fencing among young people.

1971: Mr Alexey NIKANTCHIKOV (†) (USSR)

Three times world champion at épée, in Moscow in 1966, Montreal in 1967 and in 1970 in Ankara, several times world champion in the team competition. A magnificent fencer in the classic, elegant mould. An example of loyalty and fair play, who has contributed by his behaviour on the piste to the best possible propaganda for the spread of our sport.

1973: Hungarian Fencing Federation

For, whilst maintaining a secular tradition of fair play and respect for the rights of the individual, having succeeded thanks to the energy of its leaders and the willingness of its fencers, in coming top of the participating countries during the 1972 Olympic Games.

For having also, within the F.I.E. and at conferences, presented projects which demonstrate an unquestionable competence, objectivity and understanding of the techniques of fencing.

1975: Mr Henri DULIEUX (H.M.) (†) (France)

For, after having been a brilliant international fencer and Olympic medallist, having then shown great devotion as leader of the F.I.E., firstly as Secretary-Treasurer in the board presided over by Mr Jacques COUTROT, then for the next twelve years as Secretary General in all the boards presided over by President Pierre FERRI, until December 1912, when his health prevented him from continuing.

Both as a fencer and an international leader, Henri DULIEUX demonstrated remarkable qualities and in particular loyalty, fair play and constant devotion, which mark him out unreservedly as worthy of the FEYERICK Challenge.

1977: Federation of the Federal Republic of Germany

For the remarkable results obtained, both over the past two years by its foil and épée teams, results crowned at the Olympic Games of Montreal by the success of its épéist PUSCH and its men's foil team, and for having demonstrated the purest sporting spirit, sporting loyalty and fair play, whilst participating actively in the development of the International Federation.

1979: Mr Emilio GARCIA DIEZ (†) (Spain)

For having devoted himself passionately to the F.I.E. by magnificently organising the World Championships in his own country, and for having demonstrated constant devotion to the F.I.E., both as a member of the Technical Committee, an international referee and finally as a member of the Statutes Commission and, despite the illness which sapped his strength, for having always conducted himself with the great courage worthy of a fencer.

1981: Swedish Fencing Federation

For having consistently demonstrated the highest gentlemanly and selfless sporting spirit and for the remarkable result obtained by its épéists firstly in team competitions at the World Championships and the Olympic Games, and also in the individual competitions at these same championships.

1983: Mr Hans DRAKENBERG (H.M.) (†) (Sweden)

A brilliant athlete who distinguished himself at épée on the international scene, winning the bronze medal at the 1934 European Championships, the title of European Champion in 1935, and the silver medal at the 1936 Olympic Games, thereby crowning his sporting career at the highest level.

Then, as a leader, he permanently represented the Swedish Federation at F.I.E. conferences, participating effectively in the work of the Electric Signalling and Equipment Commission and showing an interest in all the problems of our conferences where he acted with a great persuasive desire, inspired by the purest sporting spirit, whilst remaining perfectly courteous and exhibiting the greatest fair play towards his opponents.

1985: Mr Alexandre ROMANKOV (USSR)

Five times world champion at foil, several times world team champion with the USSR, a model of loyalty on the piste, his intelligence and his moral qualities have made a very useful contribution to spreading our sport throughout the world.

1987: Mr Gian Carlo BRUSATI (H.M.) (†) (Italy)

A highly talented fencer and team member, Olympic champion at épée in 1936 in Berlin, then established himself as an exceptional leader.

Vice-President of the Italian Federation then Vice-President of the F.I.E.; finally, President of the F.I.E. from 1980 to 1984.

1989: Mr Pál KOVACS (H.M.) (†) (Hungary)

An incomparable épéist, Olympic champion, world champion, who then showed untiring devotion to the cause of fencing as Vice-President of the F.I.E. in the board presided over successively by Messrs Pierre FERRI, Gian Carlo BRUSATI and Rolland BOITELLE.

Honorary Vice-President, he worked for fencing as President of the Commission for the Improvement of Fencing.

1991: Messrs Edgard MERCIER (H.M.) (†) and René MERCIER (H.M.) (†) (France)

One surname, two first names which cannot be split.

Exceptional leaders, for almost half a century they contributed, with total selflessness and considerable devotion, to the spread of international fencing.

Whether it be as committee presidents, international referees, presidents or members of numerous technical committees at the Olympic Games and the World Championships, they always received general approval within our Federation and gained the respect and admiration of all.

1993: Cuban Fencing Federation

For its major sporting successes in recent years, notably the gold medal at individual women's épée in 1990, and team men's foil medals, gold at the 1991 World Championships and silver at the Barcelona Olympics in 1992.

Also, for its permanent contribution to the development of fencing throughout the world and more specifically on the American continent.

1995: Fencing Association of the People's Republic of China

For its major sporting advances, demonstrated in particular in recent years at the World Championships and the Olympic Games.

Also, for its devotion to the global development of fencing, more specifically in the geographical area of Asia-Oceania.

1997: Mrs Anja FICHTEL-MAURITZ (GER)

Both for the remarkable results obtained during her brilliant career as an athlete, and for having demonstrated the purest sporting spirit, sporting loyalty and fair play.

Exemplary in her conduct on the piste and in her moral qualities which have contributed to the spread of our sport.

1999: South African Fencing Federation and Mr George R. VAN DUGTEREN (RSA)

As a reward for work undertaken over several years for the development of fencing on the African continent.

For his permanent representation of the South African Fencing Federation at the conferences of the F.I.E., participating effectively in the work of the Medical Committee, showing an interest

in all the problems of our conferences and always acting with perfect courtesy and the utmost fair play .

2001: Senegalese Fencing Federation (SEN)

As a reward for the spectacular development of the Senegalese fencing.

2003: Fencing Federation of Denmark (DEN)

For its fair-play behaviour during the Lisbon World Championships:

2005: Mr Fabrice JEANNET (FRA)

For his declarations in the press so conveying the values of fencing: chivalrous spirit and education.

2007: Mrs Timea Nagy (HUN)

Both for her exemplary conduct on the piste and her remarkable results (two titles of Olympic champion).

2009: Zagunis Mariel (USA)

The Chevalier Feyerick Trophy was awarded to Ms Mariel ZAGUNIS (USA) who has shown the most unselfish attitude and best spirit of sportsmanship.

BEST FENCER OF THE YEAR

2008: Valentina Vezzali (ITA)

With three individual Olympic gold medals and five individual world titles in her list of achievements, Valentina Vezzali became, at the age of 34, the greatest fencing champion of all times.