



SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

FIE CONGRESS

25 NOVEMBER 2017

DUBAI (UAE)

I. GENERAL DECISIONS

129 federations participated in the Congress, of which 122 were in attendance and 7 were represented.

1. RATIFICATION OF THE NEW FEDERATIONS

The Congress approved the affiliation of Angola (ANG)

2. APPROVAL OF THE REPORT OF THE 2016 CONGRESS HELD IN MOSCOW (RUS)

The report of the 2016 Congress was approved.

3. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

The 2016 Executive Committee Report was approved.

4. 2016 FINANCIAL REPORT, AUDITORS' REPORT, APPROVAL OF THE ACCOUNTS, DISCHARGE TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND TO THE AUDITORS

The financial report, the 2016 accounts, and the auditors' report were approved.

Discharge was granted to the Executive Committee and to the auditors.

5. 2018 BUDGET

The 2018 budget was approved.

6. DESIGNATION OF AUDITORS

Ernst and Young were appointed for another year.

7. RESTRUCTURING OF THE RULES

The restructuring of the organization and technical rules was approved.

8. QUALIFICATION CRITERIA FOR THE TOKYO 2020 OLYMPIC GAMES

The qualification criteria for the Tokyo 2020 OG were approved by the Congress. They will be submitted to the IOC for final approval.

9. AWARD OF THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

- a) The organisation of the 2020 J/C World Championships was awarded to Salt Lake City (USA)
- b) The organisation of the 2019 Veterans World Championships was awarded to Cairo (EGY)
- c) The organisation of the 2020 Veterans World Championships was awarded to Zagreb (CRO)

10. NOMINATIONS OF MEMBERS OF HONOUR

The Congress approved the nomination of the following members of honour:

- Carl Borack (USA)
- Emmanuele Francesco Maria Emanuele (ITA)
- George R. Van Dugteren (NED), posthumously
- Omar Vergara (ARG)

11. CHALLENGE CHEVALIER FEYERICK

The 2017 Challenge Chevalier Feyerick was awarded to Alisher Usmanov (RUS).

Summary of decisions 2017 Congress

MODIFICATIONS OF THE STATUTES

The texts below are applicable on January 1st, 2018, unless mentioned otherwise.

Article 4.1.2

Candidates ~~for the Executive Committee, a Commission, a Council or the Disciplinary Panel~~ ~~any elected post~~ may be proposed by an F.I.E. Member Federation, subject to the following conditions:

- only one candidate may be proposed by each Member Federation for each post
- a candidate ~~for the Executive Committee, a Commission, a Council or the Disciplinary Panel~~ can only be presented by the Member Federation ~~with~~ (treated in 4.4.1, 4.6.2 and 4.7.1) ~~the limit of 1 candidate per nationality for any such position~~ with whom the candidate has nationality.

Article 4.4.2

4. A candidate for the Refereeing Commission must ~~have both~~:

- ~~must~~ be or have been an FIE category B or A referees in at least two weapons;

and

- be a current member of the Refereeing Commission, or have refereed in official FIE competitions in ~~each of~~ at least two weapons in at least two (2) of the 4 fencing seasons (1 September to 31 August) preceding his candidature

and

- have refereed, at least once, in one weapon, in the table of eight, ~~semi-final or final of the individual or team event~~ of a senior World Cup, or a Grand Prix, or a World Championships or the Olympic Games of the 4 fencing seasons preceding his candidature.

Article 4.7.6

Candidates permitting, ~~there must be at least two persons of each gender~~ ~~there must be at least 20% representation of each gender~~ on each of the councils.

Article 5.6.2

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PRESIDENT

The CEO, with the approval of the President may ~~employ with the approval of the Executive Committee~~ hire and dismiss the personnel ~~of the FIE necessary to run the F.I.E. efficiently~~. The CEO will inform the Executive Committee.

Article 6.4.2

A Commission's meeting is valid only when the majority of members are present. Otherwise, the proposals taken will be submitted by correspondence to absent members who must express their opinion within 8 days; if they fail to do this, their silence will be interpreted as an agreement with the submitted proposal.

Each member of the commission is entitled to participate in any meeting, by telephone or video conference, provided that both of the following conditions are fulfilled:

- (i) the President of the commission is able to ascertain the identity of each person attending the meeting; and
- (ii) all the participants are able to take part in real time in the discussion and simultaneously vote on the items of the meeting agenda.

The Meeting is considered to be held in the location where the President is attending the meeting.

Each member who wants to participate by telephone or video conference, pursuant to the above, shall submit the request to the President, at least 10 days before the meeting. However, no such 10-day notice is required if a member of the commission cannot attend the meeting in person on account of a force majeure event including, but not limited to, illness or injury preventing a person from coming to the meeting or travel interruption due to delays preventing the person from arriving in time for the meeting.

For certain matters the President, following each meeting deliberation, may ask for a confirmation to be addressed by e-mail within 10 days from the date the meeting is held.

Participation by telephone or video is not permitted when a secret ballot is required.

Article 6.5.5 ~~The Promotion and Publicity, Communication and Marketing Commission~~

The duties of ~~this~~ the Promotion, Communication and Marketing Commission ~~is~~ are: ~~to motivate and co-ordinate the activities of the member Federations for the promotion and development of fencing; to advise the Congress on the way in which the patronage of the F.I.E. will be bestowed on international competitions; to propose the rules for the World Cup competitions (A category and Grand Prix) and Masters, and to supervise their application; and to maintain contact between the F.I.E. and the fencing masters.~~

- a) To provide expertise to elevate and enhance the image of fencing for all groups including sponsors, audiences, fencers and all the fencing family

- b) To propose innovations and improvements to the Executive Committee, particularly those associated with television, internet and live audiences
- c) To make recommendations to the Executive Committee on all matters associated with Promotion, Communication and Marketing
- d) To contribute to the continuing promotion of fencing in all zones
- e) To propose changes and improvements to the sections in the administrative rules and handbooks relating to Promotion, Communication and Marketing

Article 7.1.1 Jurisdiction

The Disciplinary Panel, selected by the Executive Committee, has sole jurisdiction to rule on all offences against the Rules, Ethics Code, discipline or sportsmanship within the purview of the International Fencing Federation (F.I.E.), (including any of its confederations that have subjected themselves to this FIE Disciplinary Code and/or the decisions of the Disciplinary Panel), except the specific dispositions with respect to discipline at the sites of the competitions to be found in Articles t.114 et seq. of the Rules for Competitions of the F.I.E. The eExecutive eCommittee will assure the respect for and the execution of the decisions of the Disciplinary Panel.

For the purpose of the Disciplinary Code, any confederation that has subjected itself to this FIE Disciplinary Code and/or the decisions of the Disciplinary Panel will hereinafter be referred to as a 'Joined Confederation'.

Article 7.1.2 Disciplinary jurisdiction - persons subject

All individual or entities are subject to the disciplinary jurisdiction of the Disciplinary Panel of the F.I.E. for example who:

- are members of the F.I.E.;
- are licensees of the F.I.E. or of any of the Joined Confederations;
- are licensees of or affiliated to members of the F.I.E.; or
- are members of national delegations.

Article 7.1.7 Offences

The offences submitted to the assessment of the Disciplinary Tribunal of the F.I.E. are the following:

- Violation of the Statutes or the Rules of the F.I.E. or of any of the Joined Confederations
- Unsportsmanlike conduct
- Brutal behaviour -----etc.

Article 7.2.2 Composition of the Disciplinary Tribunal

The head office of the F.I.E. will inform the President of the Legal Commission of any complaint filed with the F.I.E and the parties involved within three days after the complaint was filed with the F.I.E.

~~When it is necessary to engage a Disciplinary Tribunal,~~ In case of admissibility of the complaint according to Article 7.2.1, the Legal Commission, or a sub-committee thereof selected for this purpose, will within 7 days after being informed about the complaint by the head office of the F.I.E. eliminate those members of the D.P. who have a conflict of interest, either because of the countries represented in the controversy or because of involvement in the incident in another role (e.g. DT, Arbitrage, etc.). It will then select the 3 members of the Disciplinary Tribunal, by lots to be designated as the Tribunal, plus one additional person, also selected by lots, to be the alternate, who shall be substituted on the Tribunal if one of the 3 persons originally chosen is not available or shall be determined to have a conflict of interest which causes that person to be eliminated from the Tribunal. The Legal Commission shall designate the president of the Disciplinary Tribunal. Any member of the Tribunal selected by the Legal Commission shall have the responsibility to disclose any relationships with the parties and to refuse to accept any assignment to a Tribunal where there is a conflict of interest.

The proceedings of the Disciplinary Tribunal and the Legal Commission with regard to any complaint shall be strictly confidential until a decision is rendered. No copies of the complaint shall be sent to anyone other than the parties involved, the Head Office of the FIE, the Disciplinary Tribunal, ~~and~~ the Legal Commission ~~and~~ the Bureau with respect to matters relating to 7.2.12.

Article 7.2.3 The disciplinary Tribunal - composition, powers, obligations

The head office of the F.I.E. ~~shall~~ will send to the president of the Disciplinary Tribunal within ~~15-7~~ days after its creation, the complaint, which was filed with the F.I.E.

The president of the Disciplinary Tribunal will, within 15 days, transmit a copy of the complaint to the person(s) designated therein.

A copy of the complaint is also sent to the president(s) of the federation(s) to which the parties belong.

~~If the case arises, t~~The Disciplinary Tribunal can, on its own motion, decide that there is no grounds to prosecute the complaint, which has been submitted to them.

That decision can be appealed according to the rules of Article 7.2.7.

The Disciplinary Tribunal has all of the powers for investigating the complaint, and pronouncing, if the case arises, a penalty. It must, in all circumstances, respect and ensure respect of the rights of the defence.

Article 7.2.11

~~Article 7.2.11~~ — Procedure in the case of a black card

~~When a black card is awarded at an international competition organised under the aegis of the F.I.E., it shall be reported within 10 days, to the president of the F.I.E., who assesses the appropriateness of prosecuting before the Disciplinary Tribunal the offence, which led to the penalty of the black card. Depending upon the severity of the offence committed, he will then send the report made by the F.I.E. supervisor or by the Directoire Technique to the president of the Legal Commission, requesting them to establish a Disciplinary Tribunal~~

Article 7.2.12 Power of judgement by the ~~Central Office~~ Bureau of the F.I.E.

In case of emergency, the ~~Central Office~~ Bureau of the F.I.E. can take, within the framework of its power to judge, preliminary administrative measures suspending the license of the defendant ~~when it has referred the case to~~ until a final ruling by the Disciplinary Tribunal.

It can only do this in cases where the severity of the offence or its consequences require it.

Article 9.1.5 Application and Issue

a) The licences are ordered by national Federations on the FIE Web site for those holding the nationality ~~or a refugee status issued by the governmental authorities~~ of and entitled to membership with the federation.

e) The F.I.E. ~~administrative head~~ office with the agreement of the FIE Bureau may of its own initiative grant an international licence to a fencer who has the nationality of a country where there is neither a national federation which is a member of the F.I.E. nor an Olympic Committee affiliated to the I.O.C., and to fencers who are legally stateless.

Article 9.2.3

For the FIE competitions fencers who are legally stateless ~~or hold a refugee status issued by the governmental authorities in the country in which they live~~, may compete as long as they are registered by the member federation of the country in which they live ~~with approval of the F.I.E. Bureau. Fencers holding refugee status shall be treated as nationals of the country of such member federation for purposes of these Statutes and F.I.E. rules unless the Member Federation refuses to allow them to~~

compete on behalf of such Federation in which case they shall be treated as stateless, but shall not be permitted to represent any particular country in competitions, either individually or as part of a team, unless authorized to do so by the F.I.E. Bureau.

Summary of decisions 2017 Congress

The texts below are applicable on January 1st, 2018, unless mentioned otherwise.

MODIFICATIONS TO THE ORGANISATION RULES

Composition of pools

o.13.1 and 2 new o.68

1. The pools are composed taking account of the latest official FIE ranking and by drawing lots among any fencers who are not in the ranking. **The pools are composed using the following method:**

Pool	A	B	C
Fencer ranked	1	2	3
	6	5	4
	7	8	9
	12	11	10
	13	14	15
	18	17	16
	19	20	21

2. The allocation of fencers in the pools must be made in such a way as to place fencers of the same nationality in different pools, as far as possible. **If a fencer is placed in a pool where there is already a fencer of the same nationality, he is moved one or more places down the ranking until he is placed in a pool without a fencer of the same nationality. If this is not possible, he must remain in the original pool.**

Notation of results in the pool sheet

o.17.1 and 2 new t.38

1

- a) One of the fencers **has scored 5 hits**. In this case the score registered on the score-sheet is the final score of the bout (~~V5 – Dn, where n = the number of hits scored by the losing fencer~~) (V – n, where n = the number of hits scored by the losing fencer)
- b) **At épée**, if the two fencers reach a score of 4–all, they must fence for a deciding hit, up to the time limit. Any double hit will not be counted (and the fencers will therefore remain where they are on the piste).

2. Three minutes of effective fencing time have passed. (There is no warning for the last minute.)

- a) If **when the time limit expires** there is a difference of at least one hit between the scores of the two fencers, the fencer who has scored the greater number of hits is declared winner. The score registered on the score-sheet is the actual score achieved in the bout ($VN - Dn$, where N = the number of hits scored by the winning fencer and n = the number of hits scored by the losing fencer).
- b) If **at the end of regulation time the scores are equal**, the fencers fence for a deciding hit, with a maximum time limit of one minute. Before the fencing recommences, the Referee draws lots to decide who will be the winner if scores are still equal at the end of the extra minute.
- c) In this case the score registered on the score-sheet is always the **actual score achieved in the bout**:
- $VN - Dn$ if a deciding hit is scored within the time limit for the bout.
 - $V4 - D4$ or $V3 - D3$ or $V2 - D2$ or $V1 - D1$ or $V0 - D0$ if the winner is designated by drawing lots.

Application: from season 2018-2019

Special cases in the result list

o.20.1 and 2 new o.74

~~A fencer who **withdraws, or who is excluded**, is scratched from the pool, and his results are annulled as if he had not taken part.~~

1. A fencer who **is not present at the start of the pool** is scratched from the pool and is recorded without a classification at the end of the final classification list with the information "Did Not Start".

2. A fencer who **is excluded during the pool phase** is scratched from the pool, and his results are annulled as if he had not taken part. The fencer is recorded without a classification at the end of the final classification list with the information "Excluded".

Application: starting from season 2018-2019

Special cases in the result list

o.25.1 and 2 new o.79

1. ~~When~~, At any stage of the competition, if for whatever reason, a fencer **does not fence, or cannot is unable to fence, or cannot does not complete his bout**, his opponent is declared winner of that bout. A fencer who withdraws does not lose his place in the overall classification of the competition and is recorded in the result list with the information "Did Not Finish".

2. A fencer who **is excluded** is scratched from the direct elimination table and his results are annulled as if he had not taken part. The fencer is recorded without a classification at the end of the final classification list with the information "Excluded".

Application: starting from season 2018-2019

o.28.4 new o.82

1. The **general classification** is obtained as follows:

First: the winner of the bout for the first place

Second: the loser of the bout for the first place

2. The two fencers who lose the semi-final matches are placed equal third, **when it is not necessary to separate them.**

3. When it is **necessary to separate them**, a bout for third and fourth places will be fought between the two losers of the semi-final matches.

~~4. The remainder are placed, within each round of the direct elimination, in accordance with their classification for the composition of the direct elimination table.~~

4. The remainder are placed, in each round of the tableau:

a) Competitions with a round of pools: according to the ranking for the drawing of the direct elimination tableau following the pools.

b) Competitions with no round of pools: according to the ranking preceding the drawing of the initial tableau and before any drawing of lots if that is required.

Official invitation

o.50 new o.46, o.47 and o.51

1. For all the official competitions of the FIE except the Olympic Games, the **official invitation** is the letter in which the organising federation invites every FIE member federation to take part in the Championships.
2. For the **World Championships**, this invitation must be sent to all the member federations, without exception, at least ~~six~~ **four** months before the competitions.
3. For **World Cup and Grand Prix competitions**, it must be sent out at least two months before the competition in question.

If an organising federation fails to comply with the above mentioned deadlines, it will be sanctioned with a fine amounting to 1000 €, paid to the FIE.

o.55.1 new o.29

No fencer ~~is allowed to take part in an official event of the FIE unless he or she is at least 13 years old on 1 January in the year of the competition~~ may obtain an FIE licence, enabling him or her to enter for an official FIE competition, until he or she has reached their 13th birthday.

Application: starting from season 2018-2019

Nomination of the Directoire Technique

o.57.1 new o.16

The Directoire Technique is composed of people **who have the experience and competence to organise competitions.**

World Championships and Olympic Games.

a) **For the Olympic Games** the Directoire Technique is composed of **six** members of different nationalities, one of whom must represent the organising country.

b) **For the World Championships**, the Directoire Technique is composed of **8** members of different nationalities, one of whom must represent the organising country.

c) The ~~President of the~~ **Directoire Technique** (the President and the remaining members, one of whom will be in charge of the protocol) ~~and the other members~~ is appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE.

o.63 new o.12

1. With the aim of ensuring that the rules are observed at the World Championships and Olympic Games, the President and the members of the Bureau of the FIE have the right to **attend all meetings of the Directoire Technique** and of the official delegates of the FIE. The Directoire Technique is obliged to give them notice of such meetings.

2. It is the responsibility of the Bureau of the FIE or of its designated representative to settle any ~~other~~ disputes, **other than concerning discipline**,

which arise at World Championships. [With respect to disciplinary actions, see t.143.4 and t.175.2.](#)

o.67 new **o.48**

1. Any proposed **candidature for organising the World Championships** must be studied at the venue concerned by an ad hoc delegation designated by the Executive Committee, at the invitation of the candidate federation.
2. The organising committee of the World Championships, who will receive all the entry fees from the participating delegations, must invite, **at their own expenses**, the following international officials (tourist-class return air fare, accommodation and daily allowances):
 - a) The **President of the FIE** or his representative, who presides over the World Championships and, in particular, controls the smooth running of the Directoire Technique.
 - ~~b) A head of protocol designated by the President of the FIE.~~
 - ~~c) b) Eight Six~~ **members of the Directoire Technique** appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE, of whom one must belong to the organising country [and one is Head of Protocol.](#)
 - ~~d) c) Three members of the SEMI~~ **Committee Commission**, appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE.
 - ~~e) d) Six Four~~ **members of the Refereeing Committee Commission**, one of whom is designated principal delegate, appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE.
 - ~~f) e) Three members of the Medical~~ **Committee Commission**, appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE.
 - ~~g) f) The referees designated by the Executive Committee~~ [on at the proposal of the Refereeing Commission in accordance with the Handbook of Regulations. \(maximum 34\).](#)

o.81.1 new **o.25**

- a) **The number** of FIE A or B Grade **referees** that must accompany teams to junior A Grade competitions [and satellite competitions](#) ~~and Veteran World Championships~~ is:

1–4 fencers:	no obligation to provide a referee
5–9 fencers:	One referee
10 or more fencers:	Two referees

1 Junior Team

One referee

For junior A Grade competitions [and satellite competitions](#), the name(s) of the referee(s) (who must have an FIE category in the weapon of the competition for which they are entered) must be notified via the FIE website 7 days before the competition (midnight, Lausanne time).

- b) Should a national federation not provide the required number of referees, a fine (cf. o.31, table of financial penalties and fines) will be inflicted on it.

Official FIE individual ranking

o.83.1 new **o.108**

- c) For both Senior and Junior rankings, the ranking is **kept permanently up to date**.

The first Grand Prix event of the current year cancels out the first Grand Prix event of the previous year and so forth for the remainder of the Grand Prix events.

The first World Cup event (individual and team) of the current year cancels out the first World Cup event (individual and team) of the previous year and so forth for the remainder of the World Cup events in the season.

[The first satellite competition of the current year cancels out the first satellite competition of the previous year and so forth for the other satellite competitions.](#)

The points allocated for a competition cancel out the points attributed to the same competition in the previous season.

If a competition does not take place in the current season, the points obtained at the same competition in the previous season are deleted on the anniversary of the competition.

o.83.2 new **o.108.2**

Scale of points

- a) The ranking is based on the **following points system**:

1st place	32 points
2nd place	26 points
3rd place ex aequo	20 points
5th–8th places	14 points
9th–16th places	8 points
17th–32nd places	4 points
33rd–64th places	2 points
65th-96th places	1 points

97th-128th
129th-256th

0.5 point
0.25 point

Application: starting from season 2018-2019

o.93 new o.26.1

Referees

~~Participating countries must notify at least one month in advance whether they will either bring the required number of referees or pay the penalty, in order to allow enough time to the organisers to recruit other referees.~~

Refereeing at Veteran World Championships is carried out by referees appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE, selected by the Refereeing Commission on indication of the Organizing Committee and Veterans Council. Referees must attend the refereeing meeting that takes place the day before the World Championships.

Application: starting from 2018 Veterans World Championships

o.94 new o.50

Invitations for international officials

1. Any proposed candidature for organising the Veterans World Championships must be studied at the venue concerned by a delegate designated by the Executive Committee, at the invitation of the candidate federation.
2. The organising committee of the World Championships, who will receive all the entry fees from the participating delegations, must, at their own expense, invite the following international officials (tourist-class return air fare, accommodation and daily allowances):
 - a) The President of the FIE or his representative, who presides over the World Championships and, in particular, controls the smooth running of the Directoire Technique.
 - b) Four members of the Directoire Technique appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE, one of whom must belong to the organising country.
 - c) One member of the SEMI Committee, appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE.
 - d) One member of the Refereeing Committee, appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE.
 - e) One member of the Medical Committee, appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE.

f) The referees appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE.

These officials a) to e) should preferably be selected from the Zone in which the Championships are being held.

NB: The handbook for the organisation of Veteran World Championships must be modified accordingly and the entry fees voted by the Congress introduced into the Administrative rules (90 euro for the individuals and 185 euro for the teams).

Application: starting from 2018 Veterans World Championships

MODIFICATIONS TO THE TECHNICAL RULES

OBLIGATORY USE OF THE RULES

t.1 new t.1

These Rules are obligatory **without modification** for the 'Official Competitions of the FIE', viz.:

- The World Championships, in all categories
- The fencing events at the Olympic Games
- All World Cup competitions.
- The Zonal Championships.
- [The Satellite competitions](#)

t.13.3 new t.18.3

The **conductive safety borders**, indicated in Fig. 1, the diagram of the pistes for finals and semi-finals, do not form part of the piste.

t.18.5 new t.23.5 and t.80

The order 'Halt!' is also given if the play of the competitors is dangerous, confused, or contrary to the Rules, if one of the competitors is disarmed or steps off the piste ~~or if, while retiring, he approaches too near the spectators or the referee~~ (cf. t.33, t.58).

~~In foil it is forbidden, during the course of fencing, to advance the shoulder of the non-sword arm in front of the shoulder of the sword-arm (cf.t.19). If a competitor does so he is liable to incur the penalties enumerated in Articles~~

~~t.114, t.116, t.120. Any hits scored by the fencer at fault while committing this offence will be annulled.~~

t.21.1 new t.27.1

Displacing the target and ducking are allowed, even if during the action the unarmed hand and/or the knee of the rear leg comes into contact with the piste.

t.33 new t.45

1. For an injury or cramp or other acute medical incident which occurs in the course of a bout and which is properly attested by the delegate of the FIE Medical ~~Committee~~ Commission or, in his absence, by the doctor on duty, the Referee will allow a break in the fight lasting no longer than ~~10~~ 5 minutes. This break should be timed from the point when the delegate of the FIE Medical Commission or, in his absence, the doctor gave his opinion and be strictly reserved for the requisite treatment ~~of the injury or cramp which brought it about.~~

If the delegate of the FIE Medical Commission or, in his absence, the doctor on duty considers, before or at the end of the ~~10~~ 5 minute break, that the fencer is incapable of continuing the fight, he will decide that the fencer should retire (individual events) and/or be replaced, if possible (team events) (cf. o.99.6.a/b).

All breaks for injury or cramp must be noted on the score-sheet for the bout, the pool or the match.

Application: from season 2018-2019, so that the softwares can be modified.

2. During the remainder of the same day, a fencer cannot be allowed a further break unless as a result of a different injury or cramp or acute medical incident.

3. Should a fencer demand a break which is deemed by the delegate of the Medical ~~Committee~~ Commission or, in his absence, by the doctor on duty to be unjustified, the Referee will penalise that fencer as specified in Articles t.158-t.162, t.166, t.170.

4. In team events a fencer judged unable to continue the bout by the delegate of the FIE Medical Commission or, in his absence, by the doctor on duty may, nevertheless, on the advice of the same delegate of the FIE Medical Commission/doctor, fight in subsequent matches on the same day.

t.35.1 new t.47.1

All bouts at fencing in official FIE competitions are directed by a referee who must be an FIE referee licensed for the current season. ~~For reasons of expedience, National category referees who are candidates for the FIE refereeing exams and have paid to take them are authorised to referee satellite competitions~~

t.42.3 new t.61.4

At the finals of the Olympic Games and at the finals of the Senior, Junior and Cadet World Championships, the replays of an action under review must be shown on a screen so as to be visible to the spectators.

Application: starting from season 2018-2019

t.43.1 new t.64.2 and t.64.4

at foil, the conductive jacket conforms to the provision of Article m.28 when each competitor ~~is standing upright, is in the~~ 'on guard' ~~and is in the lunge~~ position;

at sabre, the conductive jacket conforms to the provision of Article m.34 when each competitor is ~~standing upright in the~~ 'on guard' ~~and is in the lunge~~ position;

t.45.1 and 2 new t.71

If a fencer appears on the piste:

- with only **one** regulation **weapon** (cf. t.114, t.115); or
- with only **one** regulation **body wire**; or
- with only **one** regulation **mask wire**; or
- with a weapon or a body wire which does not work or which does not conform with the Rules; or
- without his **protective under-plastron** (cf. t.64.5); or
- with a **conductive jacket** which does not fully cover the valid target; or
- with a mask whose 2nd security device is not securely fixed to the body of the mask; or

— with **clothing** which does not conform with the Rules;

the Referee will apply the penalties stipulated in t.158-t.162, t.165, t.170 (First Group).

t.72

When during a bout an irregularity is found in the equipment which could be caused by conditions **during the bout**:

Examples:

- conductive jacket with holes in which hits are registered as non-valid,
- weapon or body wire no longer functioning,
- pressure of the spring in the point too weak,

— the travel in the point no longer regulation, the Referee will apply **neither warning nor penalty** and any hit scored with the equipment, which has become defective will be awarded.

However, even during the course of a bout, any fencer whose weapon, at the moment he presents himself on guard and ready to fence, has a **curve of the blade** which exceeds that permitted (cf. m.8.6, m.16.2, m.23.4) commits an offence in the first group and will be penalised in accordance with Articles t.158-t.162, t.165, t.170.

Similarly, even during the course of a bout, any fencer whose mask, at the moment he presents himself on guard and ready to fence, is not securely held on his head by the 2nd security device, commits an offence in the first group and will be penalised in accordance with articles t.158-t.162, t.165, t.170.

Application: starting from season 2018-2019

t.45.5 new t.75.1 and 2

1. If the conductive jacket does not conform to the rules, the fencer must put on a spare jacket that does conform to the rules. If this jacket does not have his name and nationality on the back, the fencer has until the next stage of the competition (from the pools to the table of 64, the table of 32, etc.) to get his name and nationality printed on it.

If this is not done and except in cases of 'force majeure', the referee will eliminate the fencer and he cannot continue to participate in the competition.

2. If an item of a fencer's clothing bearing the name and nationality or the national logo becomes dangerous (e.g. tear, burst seam), the fencer must put on spare clothing, which conforms to the rules. If this clothing does not bear the name and nationality or the national logo, the fencer has until the next stage of the competition, as detailed in the preceding article, to get them printed on it. If this is not done and except in cases of force majeure, the referee will eliminate the fencer.

t.53.3 new t.80

~~Fencers are forbidden to place a non-insulated part of their weapon in contact with their conductive jacket with the intention of jamming the electrical apparatus and thus avoiding being hit.~~

~~The penalty for committing such an offence is specified in Articles t.114, t.116, and t.120. Any hit scored by the fencer at fault is annulled.~~

t.99.4 new t.143

In urgent cases, the **FIE Central-Office Bureau** may take the preliminary administrative measures necessary for the suspension of the licence of the accused in accordance with the Disciplinary Code.

t.114.2 and 3 new t.159

Penalties are cumulative and they are valid for the bout with the exception of those indicated by a BLACK CARD, which means exclusion from the competition, suspension for the remainder of the tournament and for the following ~~two-months~~ 60 days of the active season (~~1-October~~ 1 September – World Championships for the Juniors, and (~~1-January~~ 1 September – World Championships for the Seniors), whether current or forthcoming or both (cf.t.169.2).

t.162.3

Exclusion from the competition, suspension from the remainder of the tournament and for the following ~~two-months~~ 60 days of the active season, whether current or forthcoming, indicated by a BLACK CARD with which the Referee identifies the person at fault.

Application: starting from season 2018-2019

The Fourth Group of offences

t.119.1 and 2 new t.169

1. The first infringement in the Fourth Group, is penalised by a BLACK CARD (exclusion from the competition, suspension from the remainder of the tournament and for the following ~~two-months~~ 60 days of the active season (~~1-October~~ 1 September – World Championships for the Juniors, and (~~1-January~~ 1 September – World Championships for the Seniors), whether current or forthcoming or both). However, a **team** excluded from a tournament because of a BLACK CARD imposed on one of its members is not excluded as a team from the following competitions, but it may not select the penalised fencer.

Application: starting from season 2018-2019

2. Furthermore any black card awarded at a competition of the FIE or at a competition organized by any Confederation which has subscribed to the FIE disciplinary code shall be reported within 10 days to the President of the FIE, for him to assess whether the severity of the offence committed warrants the sending of the report made by the FIE supervisor or by the Directoire Technique to the president of the Legal Commission, requesting him to establish a Disciplinary Tribunal to determine if penalties in addition to those imposed at the competition should be imposed.

t.120 new t.170

BLACK CARD	Exclusion from the competition, suspension from the remainder of the tournament and for the following 2-months 60 days of the active season (1st October September – World Championships for the juniors and 1st January-September – World Championships for the seniors), whether current or forthcoming.
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Application: starting from season 2018-2019

t.120.1.17 new t.170.1.17

Unjustified appeal : casting doubt on the decision of the referee on a point of fact.	t.172, t.173, t,174	YELLOW	RED	RED
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t.120.1.19 new t.170.1.19

Reversing the line of the shoulders at foil* Application: starting season 2016-2017	t.18.5	YELLOW	RED	RED
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t.120. 4.3 new t.170.4.3

Equipment altered to allow the recording of hits or the non-functioning of the apparatus at will	t.73.1.f); m.5.5.d	BLACK
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t.120.4.5 new t.170.4.5

Offence against sportsmanship	t.121.1, t.122/t.123; t.149.1	BLACK
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t.120 new t.170

Explanations	
BLACK	A fencer only receives a BLACK CARD in the Third Group if he previously committed an offence in this Third Group (demonstrated by a RED CARD).

PROTESTS AND APPEALS

Against a decision of the Referee

t.122.1 et 2 new t.172

1. **No appeal can be made** against the decision of the Referee regarding a point of fact **except as permitted in o.105 and t.60-t.63 for video refereeing** (cf. t.136.1/2, t.137.2).
2. If a fencer infringes this principle, **casting doubt** on the decision of the Referee on a point of fact during the bout, he will be penalised according to the rules (cf. t.158-t.162, t.165, t.170). However, if the Referee **is ignorant of or misunderstands a definite rule**, or applies it in a manner contrary to the Rules, an appeal on this matter may be entertained. **A point of fact includes, but is not limited to, any ruling by the referee analysing what happened on the piste, such as the validity or priority of a hit, whether a fencer left the side or end of the piste or if a person's behaviour is a Group 3 or Group 4 offence.**

Other protests and appeals

t.123.2 new t.176

If a complaint or protest contests a decision **initially** taken by the Directoire Technique or ~~the~~ an official FIE delegate it should be addressed to the FIE **Central Office Bureau** in accordance with Articles 7.2 and t.140.

Investigation — Right of defence

t.124 new **t.176**

~~No penalty can be imposed until after an **enquiry** has been held in the course of which the parties concerned have been called on to give their explanation of the occurrence either verbally or in writing, within a reasonable interval of time, suited to the time and place. After this time limit has expired, the penalty may be imposed~~

Method of decision

t.125 new **t.177**

The decisions of the ~~juridical authorities of competitions~~ **Directoire Technique** are **by majority vote**, the chairman (president) having the casting vote in case of a tie.

Index To Articles

~~Reversing the line of the shoulders (foil) t.80.2~~

MODIFICATIONS TO THE MATERIAL RULES

m.12.2

Normally, only **fixing** by metal-to-metal is allowed. However, fixing by any **insulating** material of great mechanical strength may be authorised after approval by the SEMI Commission of the FIE.

m.16.3

The maximum length of the blade is 90 cm (cf. m.3).

m.20.1

Normally, only **fixing by metal-to-metal** is allowed. However, fixing by any **insulating** material of great mechanical strength may be authorised after approval by the SEMI Commission of the FIE

m.25.3

c. **Clothing**—Jackets, under-plastrons, breeches and trousers must be made entirely in cloth able to **resist a pressure of 800 Newtons**. Very particular attention must be paid to the way the seams under the armpits, if there are any, are made. An **under-garment** consisting of a protective under-plastron covering the vital upper areas of the body (following the design given in Annexe A to these Rules, 'Safety norms for manufacturers') resistant to 800 Newtons is also obligatory.

f. **Logos** (national strips) worn on the national clothing must be approved by the **FIE Executive Committee** ~~at least 30 days before they are used for the first time in an official FIE competition~~; they are then published on the FIE website and may thereafter be used in official FIE competitions.

m.25.6

Glove

At all weapons, the **gauntlet of the glove** must, in all circumstances, fully cover approximately half the forearm of the competitor's sword arm to prevent the opponent's blade entering the sleeve of the jacket.

Under no circumstances should there be any hole in the hand of the glove, even to allow the passage of the body wire.

m.44.5

The source of electrical current (~~accumulators~~) should be 12 V DC via AC/DC converter or through VRLA (valve-regulated lead-acid) batteries (cf. m.58).

m.51.7

- a) For official competitions of the FIE (cf. t.1) the source of power must always be ~~accumulators~~ secured through external batteries or UPS (Uninterruptible power supply) in order not to interrupt the load during the match if any interruption occurs in the normal electricity supply. The wiring of the ~~box~~ apparatus to be powered in this way must be designed so that it is impossible for the ~~box~~ apparatus to become connected by mistake ~~directly~~ to the mains supply.
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m.52.4

For official FIE competitions (cf. t.1) ~~it is compulsory that~~ the apparatus ~~must obligatorily~~ be powered ~~by accumulators~~ through external batteries or UPS (Uninterruptible power supply) with minimum 5 minutes backup time. ~~without any connection to the main electrical supply.~~

m.58.3

If the apparatus is constructed to operate with dry batteries, it must be equipped with a voltmeter or some other device enabling the power in the batteries to be checked at any moment. However, the apparatus must always be equipped with a socket, ~~as described above~~ to allow it to be powered ~~either~~ by ~~accumulator~~ 12 V DC via AC/DC converter or through VRLA batteries.

m.58.4

Generally, if the apparatus is powered by batteries or UPS (Uninterruptible power supply), the minimum backup time for the external batteries or UPS is 5 minutes. ~~there should be two batteries available per apparatus: 12 volt car batteries are used, of 60 or 90 amps/hour~~

2.1.2. TRANSPARENT MASKS

1. ~~General~~

~~The FIE in its standard practices has established the possibility for fencers to use either traditional masks made with metal mesh or transparent masks.~~

~~The transparent visor, when used, must be a minimum of 3.0 mm in thickness and must also have a separate replaceable outer covering (a "sacrificial" layer) at least 1 mm in thickness. The visor must be made of polycarbonate resin~~

~~thermoplastic, and each mask and each replacement visor must be accompanied, at the time of purchase, with a statement that guarantees the authenticity and origin of the polycarbonate resin thermoplastic. The visor must correspond to the required norms of materials and manufacture as indicated in 2.1.2. of the annex to chapter 3 (Materials) of the rulebook.~~

~~These transparent masks can be of two types:~~

- ~~— composite masks, made using traditional masks, of which a part of the front mesh has been replaced by a visor of transparent plastic;~~
- ~~— masks made entirely of plastic, of which the front part must be transparent.~~

~~Currently only composite masks have been accepted by the FIE.~~

~~The wearing of the transparent mask is forbidden at all weapons and in all FIE competitions.~~

~~2. Manufacturing norms for transparent masks~~

~~The norms are, at present, valid only for composite masks.~~

~~The starting point is a metal mesh mask; into the front part of the mesh, at eye level, a window is made by cutting the mesh to a width that may reach as far as the lateral part of the mesh and to a height that may not exceed 12 cm.~~

~~The window must be rimmed by a frame of stainless steel, made of two superimposed sections, of which the first is to be soldered to the mesh and the second fixed to the first by bolts.~~

~~The transparent visor made of polycarbonate (Lexan) will be placed between the two parts of the frame.~~

~~Care must be taken that:~~

- ~~— The thickness of the steel gauge of each part of the frame must be between 0.8 mm and 1.0 mm.~~
- ~~— The edges of the frame which holds down the transparent visor must not be sharp (cutting) and must adhere to the mesh, without any perceptible projections.~~
- ~~— The part of the frame that is soldered must be fixed to the mesh before the window is cut, to ensure that the shape of the mask is not altered when the wires of the mesh are cut.~~
- ~~— The bolts fixing the two parts of the frame must not project beyond the nuts into which they screw.~~

- ~~— The polycarbonate transparent visor (Lexan) must have a minimum thickness of 3.0 mm, and a protective layer against damage to the outside surface is recommended.~~
- ~~— The visor must not have any holes in it, must be shaped when hot, and placed in its location in the frame, under no pressure, when cold and, therefore, without being in any way 'stressed'.~~
- ~~— There must be provision for an anti-condensation system on the inside of the visor, or Lexan treated to this end must be used.~~
- ~~— Because of the damage caused to transparent visors during fencing competitions, it is essential that fencers are able to change the visor of their masks simply and easily.~~
- ~~— The padding of the mask must be reduced as much as possible, using any system which will provide a circulation of air virtually equivalent to that of the traditional mask.~~
- ~~— The total weight of the mask must not exceed 2 kg.~~

~~3. Safety standards~~

~~All transparent visor masks must provide a high level of safety for fencers. They must therefore comply with very strict standards and in particular:~~

- ~~— The whole structure of the mask must be rigid and not be distorted as a result of violent shocks.~~
- ~~— The metal mesh and the bib must have the same strength characteristics as those of traditional masks.~~
- ~~— Because of ageing of the plastic material, the polycarbonate visor must only be used for two years after its manufacture and, therefore, the date of manufacture, using the format of month (two digits) and year (four digits), e.g. 10-2010, must be indicated on it very clearly.~~
- ~~— To avoid degrading the polycarbonate, all contact with chemical agents that can damage the material must be prevented; in particular, any presence of PVC is unacceptable.~~
- ~~— The mask should be kept in a protective bag and it is desirable to avoid putting the mask in the fencing bag (and hence in the aircraft hold) during airplane journeys, but rather to keep it in hand luggage.~~

~~4. Homologation of transparent masks and test methods~~

~~Before being put on sale and used, all transparent visor masks must be approved and homologated by the SEMI.~~

~~4.1. Homologation~~

~~To obtain FIE homologation, the manufacturer must send his masks to one of the following three institutes: In Germany "Denkendorf" ; in France CRITT or IFTH. The institute will conduct penetration resistance tests on the metal mesh and the visor in accordance with the CEN norms (e.g. Norm EN 13567).~~

~~If the test results are positive, the constructor must send two examples of the mask to be homologated, together with the Institute's certificate, to the headquarters of the SEMI in Lisbon, for the violent shock tests.~~

~~If this result is also positive, the SEMI will issue the homologation certificate to the manufacturer, and the mask may be put on sale and used at official FIE competitions.~~

~~4.2. Violent shock testing~~

~~Transparent visor masks must satisfy either the norms established by the CEN Special Commission (cf. the paragraph on masks) or the additional norms established by SEMI relating to resistance to violent shocks.~~

~~Therefore, in addition to the tests for resistance to penetration on several parts of the mask as provided for by CEN norms, there is a need for a further test of the resistance of the entire mask to violent shocks, which might occur as a result of impact with the head or the guard of the opposing fencer.~~

~~This test will be carried out in the following manner.~~

~~4.2.1. Equipment for the test~~

~~The machine to be used must provide for a striker, of variable but known weight, to fall from a height which is also variable, up to a maximum of 2 m.~~

~~Fixed to the striker there must be a rod, made of tempered steel, ending in a head in the form of a sphere, with a diameter of 20 mm \pm 0.3 mm.~~

~~The rod must be 40–50 mm long and provided with a means of attaching it (normally a thread) to the drop test machine (see Figure A.1)~~

~~Figure A.1. Test rod~~

~~An appropriate support for the mask must be provided on the base of the test apparatus, to hold the mask firmly during the tests.~~

~~On the base of the apparatus, in effect, sliding structures must be in place that can be fixed in an established position, so as to form a sort of rigid box within which the mask is held (see Figure A.2).~~

~~Figure A.2. Method of affixing the mask~~

~~4.2.2. Drop equipment~~

~~The equipment to be used must allow a guided mass weighing between 3 kg and 5 kg to drop from variable heights to achieve a maximum speed of between 5 and 6 m per second at the moment of impact of the striker on the sample to be tested.~~

~~A means must be arranged for stopping the drop weight, with the aim that only the rod with the spherical end touches the mask, and not the weight.~~

~~The releasing mechanism of the striker must be controlled in such a way as to ensure the same starting conditions, whatever the height of the drop.~~

~~The rod, as already specified in 4.2.1, must be fixed to the drop weight.~~

~~4.2.3. Sample to be tested~~

~~The sample to be tested must be the complete mask, but without the bib and the trimmings.~~

~~The mask must be placed on the base of the test apparatus, with the front part turned uppermost.~~

~~4.2.4. Successive test cycles~~

~~The tests must be conducted in the following order:~~

- ~~1. first test on the visor with the impact point of the sphere on the centre of the mask and on the line crossing the centre of the visor;~~
- ~~2. second test on the same point.~~

~~4.2.5. Procedure~~

- ~~1. Fix the mask onto the base of the machine and the rod with the impact sphere onto the drop weight of the drop test apparatus.~~
- ~~2. Place the mask in a such a way as to align the impact point on the mask's visor with the centre of the sphere.~~
- ~~3. Prepare the drop weight for a total weight of 5 kg \pm 0.03 kg, including the rod and the impact sphere.~~
- ~~4. For the first test, raise the drop weight to a height that gives a distance between the sphere and the point of impact on the mask visor of 1600 mm \pm 10 mm, corresponding to a drop energy of 80 joules.~~
- ~~5. Allow the drop weight to fall onto the mask.~~

~~6. For the second test, raise the same drop weight to a height of 1800 mm +/- 10 mm, corresponding to a drop energy of 90 joules.~~

~~7. Allow the drop weight to fall onto the mask.~~

~~4.2.6. Test result~~

~~The result of the test is considered positive if the mask resists the two tests without either deformation or damage to the visor itself, or to the frame fixing the visor to the metal mesh.~~

~~Only a small impression on the polycarbonate visor, at the point of impact of the test sphere, is acceptable.~~

Application: immediate

URGENT DECISIONS

m.25.7.

Mask

- a)** The **mask** must be made with meshes (space between the wires) of maximum 2.1 mm and from wires with a minimum gauge of 1 mm diameter. The mask must include two different safety systems at the rear.
- b)** Masks, at all weapons, must be made in accordance with the **safety standards** described in Annexe A to these Rules and must carry the quality label specified in those standards.
- c)** When the **checks** are carried out the person responsible for them may, if in doubt, ensure that the mesh of the mask, both at the front and at the sides, is able to withstand, without permanent deformation, the introduction of a conical instrument, the angle of the surface of the cone being at 4° to the axis and at a pressure of 12 kg.
- d)** A mask which does not comply with the safety requirements laid down in this article will be rendered **visibly unusable** by the weapon checking personnel or the Referee in the presence of the person who presented the mask to the weapon check or the team captain of the fencer concerned.
- e)** The **bib** of the mask must be made with cloth resistant to 1600 Newtons.
- f)** The mask must contain **two different safety systems** at the rear of the mask, with the two ends of the straps of the systems firmly affixed to the two sides of the mask. These straps ~~must meet the following requirements may be elastic or of any other material that may be~~ approved by the S.E.M.I. Commission :

Mask with metallic tongue

- The central band (strap) should not be less than 45 mm wide.
- The strap must be positioned low enough across the rear of the cervical region that the position of the strap on the head ensures that the mask cannot slide off.
- The band must be in solid material : when stretched the material should not sustain permanent plastic deformation and should quickly return to its original shape and size
- The fastening system must be doubled: it must be closed with a double security system (this means that the Velcro™ has to be attached at least twice).
- The Velcro™ must have a minimum breaking strain of 750 N/cm
- The tags to which the strap is attached by Velcro must be secured to each side of the mask with the same breaking strain.

Mask without metallic tongue

- The position of the main strap must be low enough to ensure that the mask cannot slide off; the correct distance should be decided by the manufacturer (typically 25/30 mm).
- The strap must incorporate 3 fixing points.

- The use of a magnetic strap, already existing, remains mandatory.

ANNEX A (pp. 72/73english ed.)

EQUIPMENT

2. STANDARDS FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF FENCING MASKS

2.2. SHAPE, DIMENSIONS AND METHODS OF PRODUCTION OF THE ELEMENTS OF FENCING MASKS

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF FENCING MASKS

4. Essential constituent elements

The essential elements of the mask, as shown in Figure A.3, are:

- (a) frontal grille protecting the face;
- (b) lateral grille protecting the neck and the nape of the neck;
- (c) strip for reinforcement and to connect the grilles;
- (d) bibs.

The other parts, such as the interior protecting facings, padding, elastic bands and the safety retaining devices, whose production is entrusted to the manufacturer, must entirely conform to the conditions required for their use.

In particular, the rear fixing devices must ensure that the mask is located in the correct position on the fencer's head and that it remains in a perfect position, even after blows or [shocks \(see details in M.25.7\)](#).

[Mechanical systems for this rear device are not allowed at the moment.](#)

Schedule of the replacement process:

1. The replacement of the fastening system of the old model of masks will take place during the season 2017-2018.
2. During the season 2017-2018, the use of masks with the old model of protection fastening system will be permitted at World Cups (juniors and seniors), Zonal Championships 2018 (juniors and seniors) and GP's.
3. The athletes taking part in the 2018 World Championships (J&C in Verona and senior in Wuxi) must use masks with the new fastening system
4. From the beginning of the season 2018-2019, the use of masks with the old model fastening system will not be allowed.

Chest protector

m.25.4.c

c) [At all weapons](#), the use of a breast/chest protector (made of metal or some rigid material) is compulsory for women and optional for men. At foil, this breast/chest protector must be worn below the protective plastron.

[At foil, the protector will have the following characteristics](#): The entire outside of the chest protector (the side facing the opponent) must be covered with a soft material such as E.V.A. (Ethylene-vinyl acetate) of four mm thickness and density of 22kg/m³. (The material can be attached to the current plastic models or incorporated into the manufacture of new chest protectors). [The material must have the SEMI technical](#)

mark at the center of the upper edge. ~~The hardness of the outside of the material must be 20-30% hardness. This is the typical hardness of wet suit material for scuba diving (neoprene). This measure will be obligatory for the 2015/2016 season: the SEMI commission is to supply the specifications and testing procedures.~~

Implementation: from the 2018 J & C World Championships in April in Verona.

TESTS TO BE DONE

Proposal of the Coaches Council

Motivation: To investigate possibility of reducing the gap (tolerance) in blocking time in sabre from 20 milliseconds to 3-6 milliseconds. All coaches present supported the proposal.

ANNEX B TO THE MATERIAL RULES C SABRE

a.8

After a hit has been registered, a subsequent hit made by the other fencer will only be registered if it occurs within a maximum of 170 ms (\pm ~~10~~ 3 ms).

SEMI Commission suggests +/-5ms

Decision: the SEMI Commission should organise tests and report.