

UniSport Australia Guideline

Fencing

Men and Women

UniSport Australia (UniSport) fencing competitions are conducted in accordance with the rules of the [Australian Fencing Federation](#) (AFF) except where these differ from UniSport competition guidelines; in which case the latter shall take precedence. Reference should also be made to the UniSport *Breach of Competition Requirements* guideline for penalties related to breaches.

1. Team/squad size

- Minimum registered fencers – 1
- Maximum registered fencers – 64 (32 men, 32 women)

- 1.1. Each university may enter one team per weapon category in the team's competition in each of the men's and women's events.
- 1.2. Each team in each weapon category will consist of three plus one reserve.
- 1.3. Each university may nominate a maximum of eight men and eight women in each of the individual weapon categories.
- 1.4. Competitors will need to hold a current membership with their State Fencing Association. This does not need to be a competitive membership category. A membership level appropriate for school or recreational participation will be sufficient, provided it is valid through the relevant State Association.

2. Competition format

- 2.1. The weapon categories to be contested are foil, epee and sabre.
- 2.2. Team and individual categories will be contested in each of the weapon categories.
- 2.3. Initial team rankings are achieved by adding together the positions obtained by the best three team members in the individual event:
 - a) If a team member did not take part in the individual competition, they will be assigned points equal to the total number of fencers in the individual competition ranking plus one
- 2.4. Pool and team bouts are up to a maximum of five hits with a time limit of three minutes per bout. Direct elimination bouts are up to a maximum of 15 hits over three periods of up to three minutes (foil and epee) or two periods (sabre)
- 2.5. Individual events will be fenced with one round of pools followed by a round of direct elimination. There will also be a consolation final between the two losing finalists to determine third and fourth place.
- 2.6. Team events will be fenced by direct elimination (DE). All matches will be fenced up to a maximum of 45 hits over nine relay bouts using international relay. There will be a consolation final between the two losing finalists to determine third and fourth place.
- 2.7. Refusal to compete without valid reason (e.g., injury) results in a black card for the championship.

3. Novice competition

- 3.1. Where entries permit, an individual novice category competition will be held in each of the men's and women's foil, epee and sabre.
- 3.2. Competitors entering the novice competitions must have less than two years' experience in the sport.
- 3.3. Each university may nominate a maximum of eight men and eight women in this category.

- 3.4. Match format will be as per section 2.
- 3.5. Championship event to be contested is the individual category in the foil, epee and sabre weapons.
- 3.6. Novice events will not contribute to overall competition points; however, medals will be awarded to the first, second and third novice winners.

4. Weapons

- 4.1. The competition manager shall determine the order of weapons and notify all members and UniSport one month prior to the championship.
- 4.2. All competitors must attend a weapons check at the beginning of the competition.
- 4.3. FIE-level equipment, including FIE blades and 1600N/FIE protective equipment, will not be required.

5. Directoire technique

- 5.1. The competition manager will be responsible for organising a directoire technique (DT). DT to consist of the competition manager, technical officer and up to three qualified individual representatives from separate competing universities.
- 5.2. Appeals will be considered by simple majority of the tournament directorate present upon an appeal (minimum of three independent members).

6. Point score

- 6.1. The university scoring the greatest number of points in the competition (separately for men and women), shall be declared the overall winners for the competition.
- 6.2. The men's and women's competition will be calculated for all events, except novice events, with points awarded on the following basis:

Individual categories		Team categories	
1 st	7 points	1 st	14 points
2 nd	5 points	2 nd	10 points
3 rd	3 points	3 rd	6 points
4 th	1 point	4 th	2 points

- 6.3. If a university has more than one member eligible for points, they will still receive all points.
- 6.4. If two or more universities score an equal number of points to tie for first place, the university with the highest number of first placings will be deemed the winner,
 - 6.4.1. If universities are still equal, then the university with the highest number of second placings will be deemed the winner
 - 6.4.2. If universities are still equal, the highest number of third placings, fourth placings, fifth placings and so on will be determined until a winner is found.

7. Uniform requirements

- 7.1. In addition to the requirements outlined in the [International Fencing Federation Rules – Material Rules](#) and [Australian Fencing – Equipment Requirements](#), the following items are required:
 - a) All fencers are required to wear sports shoes, long socks, breeches, plastron, chest protector (for women), jacket, glove and mask.
 - b) Fencers will also be required to wear any additional equipment required for electronic judging of the particular weapon contested.
 - c) Jackets and breeches with 350 newton resistance or higher will be accepted.

Previous amendments

August 2001 | August 2003 | February 2005 | March 2010 | March 2011 | May 2012 | May 2014 | February 2015
| April 2017 | October 2017 | April 2018 | March 2019 | February 2020 | June 2021 | July 2022 | July 2023 | June
2025 | August 2026

*All competitions will be held in accordance with the UniSport competition guidelines.

