European Fencing Confederation

EFC Circuit Competitions' Rules

N	Author	Date	Changes from previous version	Version number	Status
1	Jacek Slupski	2025.07.02 Changes approved by the Comex	New version of the Rules	1.0	In force
2	Jacek Slupski	2026.11.27 Changes approved by the Comex	Change - point IV, C	1.1	In force

All FIE Rules are to be respected. However, some deviations from these Rules were adopted for the purpose of respecting some specifics of the EFC Circuit competitions.

Individual competitions

I. Formula of competitions:

a) FIE JWC formula, i.e. one round with pools followed by direct elimination table.

b) From the round preceding DE table at least 20% and maximum 25% of participants should be eliminated.

c) In this context, from the moment of allocation of competitions for the EFC Circuit upon decision by EFC Executive Committee, the organisers have to present no later than 2 months before date of concerned tournament the invitation letter

II. Besides the rules cited above, the EFC Comex adopted following complementary rules:

a) Pools composition must be published the day before start of competitions. In case of no show on the day of competitions FIE rules for possible arrangement of concerned pools will apply.
Note: **the entries are closed at 12:00 am on the day before competition** and organisers should download the most recent xml entries file for publishing pools by 16:00 of the same day.

b) **The f**irst round in pools should run in **a** maximum of two flights.
In case of pools running in two flights the following rule for the second flight has to be applied: minimum 50% of pools in the second flight must be composed of 7 fencers in order to ensure the possibility of moving fencers from those pools in pools of 6 fencers with some missing fencers.

c) The organisers must mandatorily send a short report and photos from the tournament within 2 days after competitions to the EFC Media Commission and to the Sports director.

d) Online live results from competitions are mandatory to be ensured by organizers.

e) Only FIE certified fencing competitions management software can be used!

f) Weapon control should be held focused on security aspects defined by the EFC SEMI commission as follows:

g) The below table summarizes requirements, for full details please refer to the FIE rules.

	Mask	Glove	Maragin (F/E/S)	Clothing*	Wires/Lamé
EC Senior	Mandatory	Mandatory	Mandatory	Mandatory	Mandatory

EC U23	Mandatory	Mandatory	Mandatory	Mandatory	Mandatory
EC Junior	Mandatory	Mandatory	Mandatory	Mandatory	Mandatory
EC Cadet	Mandatory	Mandatory	Mandatory	Mandatory	Mandatory
E.F. League	Mandatory	Mandatory	Mandatory	Mandatory	Mandatory
U23 Circuit	Mandatory	Mandatory	Mandatory	Mandatory	Mandatory
U17 Circuit	Mandatory	Mandatory	Mandatory	Mandatory	Mandatory
U14 Circuit	Mandatory	Mandatory	Mandatory	Mandatory	Mandatory
The mandatory equipment control can only be performed at the piste by the referee as an exception					

The EFC can send for a chosen competition a member of the EFC SEMI commission as the delegate to check the application of relevant rules.

The Organiser of all EFC Circuit competitions should appoint a local certified Safeguarding Officer.

III. Points to be accorded:

a) The FIE formula scale of points will be applied in general
b) 1 point for places from 65 to 128 will be awarded if the fencers were qualified from previous round.

Remark: no points will be attributed for fencers eliminated in the first round.

IV. Referees quotas:

a) Number of referees:

- 1-3 fencers - no referee required
- 4-9 fencers - 1 referee
- 10 – 15 fencers - 2 referees
- 16 – 20 fencers– 3 referees
- 1-2 teams - 1 referee
- 3-5 teams - 2 referees

b) Non respect of quota is sanctioned by 500 EUR for every missing referee/per day of competition. A referee can only by registered for one event per day.

c) ~~The referees officiating at ECC (U17) must have a national licence, for the Eurofence League and U23 they should have a valid EFC-C / FIE-B/A qualification. In a transitional phase during the season 2025/2026 good national qualification can be accepted.~~ Referees officiating at the ECC (U17) must hold a national license. For Eurofence League and the U23, they need a valid EFC-C/FIE-B/A qualification. During a transitional phase in the 2026/2027 season, national licence will be accepted.

d) In order to respect the quota delegations may "hire" referees from different countries. In any case this must be coordinated with the organiser and the EFC in order to guarantee that enough countries are represented with the referees.
e) For the Ranking of teams 4 best results will be counted, but only the best ranked team will be considered for the global ranking.

f) No late entry or retreat for injury will be noted after 12:00 am on the day preceding the competition. At this moment the registration is closed and organisers should download the most recent xml entries file for publishing pools by 16:00 of the same day.

g) Inscriptions for competitions:

a) Only central offices of Federations **can enter fencers, coaches and referees respecting the EFC quota**.
b) EFC Circuit´s competitions use their access to data in the EFC Service portal.
c) If organisers use additional software requiring fencer data, this data must be extracted from the XML file – organisers shall not require additional registration via their own website
d) The entry fee for individual competitions – see concerned age category rules
e) **The deadline for inscriptions is 1 week before the day of the event.**
f) All fencers, teams, coaches and referees must be in possession of EFC license (fee of 25 EURO) and entered by their respective National Federation respecting the above mentioned deadline policy. Entering the fencer, coach or referee after deadline is sanctioned by the penalty: for a fencer and a coach 50 €/person, for a referee 100 €/Person: (*See EFC Administrative Rules, point 1.6 - https://www.eurofencing.info/getFile/case:show/id:495398*)
g) Mixed teams composed of fencers from different countries cannot be entered.

h) The EFC Circuit competitions continue to be open for all interested fencers, even from other Regional zones. However, the best ranked fencer will be declared at the end of the season and he/she can be only a fencer coming from an EFC member federation.

i) **After ending the competition, the organiser must immediately, on the same day, upload the XML-out file to EFC web site or send to EFC administrator of the Circuit.** Then an **unofficial** updated ranking will be available right after that operation. After validation of results by EFC office an updated ranking will become official. Besides uploading xml-results file the organisers **have to send to EFC administrator also complete results file** under **pdf format** and upload it to EFC web site structured as follows:

In individual competitions:

a) fencers by country (including date or year of birth)
b) fencers by initial seeding (given by EFC CC actual ranking)
c) formula
d) pools
e) ranking after pools
f) ranking for DE table in case two rounds of pools were fenced
g) all DE tables
h) final ranking (including date or year of birth)
i) activity of referees

In team event:

a) fencers in teams (including date or year of birth)

b) teams initial ranking
c) Table of direct elimination with results (all tables if also matches for places were fenced)
d) Final ranking of teams
e) Activity of referees
f) all details of matches in direct elimination

j) **General installations for competitions** should follow good practice and standards for FIE Junior World cup competitions using exclusively FIE prescribed pistes (**1,5 m wide** and 17 m long), if possible surrounded by barriers offering sufficient space for referees, ensuring good conditions for refereeing, timely posting results at every stage of competitions, etc.

k) Protocol: except "force majeure" the organisers are to hang out flags of participating federations and play the national anthems of the winners during medal ceremony.

l) The fencer's name on the back is optional.

m) The organisers are to provide mandatory medical service at competitions following FIE Rule about availability of medical services and transportation (not necessary in case of proximity of hospital according to FIE Rules).

n) If necessary, complementary rules can be implemented by the EFC Competition Commission and/or the EFC sport directory after approval of the EFC Executive Committee.

o) From this season it is highly recommended to use the EFC logo on every communication. The EFC logo shall be displayed on site and on the results together with the sponsors. This will be mandatory and preference will be given to those already using the logo.

SPECIFIC RULES ACCORDING TO THE AGE CATEGORIES

A) U14 Circuit competitions

A1) Respecting the low age of participants it is expected that fencers will not travel long distances and will look for competitions rather in their neighbourhood. Therefore, no limitations of competition per country and weapon are applied.

A2) More than one tournament in the same weapon can be organized in the country interested to hold them, to emphasize point 1.

A3) EFC U14 ranking will be computed from the overall calendar where only 3 competitions will be taken into account

A4) The entry fee was defined by the EFC Congress 2023 in Krakow to 20 € for the organizer + 5 €, which should be transferred to the account of the EFC after end of competitions by the organizer

A5) There is only one restriction: for U14 Calendar only tournaments containing both genders, girls and boys, can be proposed. However, the proposed tournament can contain one or several weapons according to the decision of the organisers.

B) Cadets Circuit competitions

B1) Competitions arrangement:

If the number of participants is exceeding 100, only one individual competition per day can be organised, possibly followed by one team event. An exception can be awarded by the EFC Sport Director upon request of the organiser who will give a guarantee of smooth running of competitions based on presented relevant technical conditions (number of pistes in context of expected number of participants), as well as availability of sufficient number of referees for the given number of pistes.

B2) Rankings:

Four (4) best results + European Cadets Championships in the individual competitions will be counted for the Ranking

B3) Points to be accorded:

The following multiplication coefficients for ranking points will be applied according to the number of participants:

Scale of multiplications	Countries up to 7	Countries 8-12	Countries 13 -
Participants 1-50	1	1,5	2
Participants 51-100	1,5	2	2,5
Participants 101-	2	2,5	3

B4) Quota of participation:

a) From the organising country a maximum of 64 fencers per weapon can be engaged
b) Foreign delegations are limited to 20 fencers per country and weapon
c) For teams: maximum 5 teams per country can participate in team events (this is valid also for the organising federation). However, in an effort to ensure good running of competitions the organiser is entitled to limit the participation of teams by nation.
d) In very exceptional case the quota of participation can be exceeded upon agreement of the EFC Sports Director
e) Minimum criteria for awarding points in the Circuit: 5 countries/30 participants/among them 30% of foreigners

B5) The entry fee:

The entry fee for individual competitions is 20 EUR (maximum) + 5 € .
For teams it can be higher; however, it should not be more than 60 EUR +15 € per team.

B6) Teams competitions:

a) The organisers are free to run first in pools of 3 or 4 teams or to organise only direct elimination team competitions. The last 8 teams can fence for all places.
b) Initial seeding of teams will be based on the results of concerned team members
b1) From the individual competition preceding the team event or
b2) From the EFC individual ranking of members of concerned team if the team event is preceding the individual team event.
c) In case of technical replacement during a match and if an injury appeared in the same match of concerned team then the replaced fencer can come back in the team in order to allow continuing of that team in the tournament (this differs from the FIE Rules for teams).
e) The EFC Sport Director will arrange with the organisers of concerned cadets Championships the purchase of a cup in each weapon (6) in order to award winners of the EFC team all season ranking.
f) For the Ranking of teams 4 best results will be counted, but only one team per country will be counted.

B7) EFC Rules about the age of participants at EFC Cadets Circuit and Championships:

a) The participants in cadet competitions are principally those who can participate at World Cadets Championships in the same fencing season, thus reaching 17 years on or after 1st of January of the year when the World Championships are held.
b) However, the lowest age of fencers should be under same conditions as cited here above, 12 years.
c) It is still possible that in case of some extraordinary advanced young fencer, upon written agreement of his/her parents, coach and doctor recommendation even younger fencer can participate in a specific cadet competition

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C) U23 Circuit competitions

C1) Principally this is the initial version of the adjusted Rules for the EFC U23 Circuit applied during previous period before 2025-2026 season.

C2) Would be welcome if team competitions accompanied competitions of individuals and thus the tournaments would be organized as two day event. Competitions including team events would have priority in case the number of competitions in the Circuit EFC becomes limited.

C3) All fencers participating in the Circuit competitions must be aged U23, i.e. the fencers who can participate at European U23 Championships in the same fencing season, thus reaching 23 years on or after 1st of January of the year when the European Championships are to be held.

C4) The entry fee for individual competitions was defined by the EFC Comex in June 2024 to maximum 35 € + 5 €. Additional 5 € the organizer should transfer to the account of the EFC after competition.

C5) The initial ranking of fencers is to apply as follows:
Current FIE ranking
EFC U23 Circuit ranking +1000
The places of non-ranked fencers are drawn randomly.

D) EFC Eurofence league competitions

D1) The age of fencers participating in the Circuit competitions is not limited.

D2) The number of participants by country is not limited

D3) The entry fee for individual competitions was defined by the EFC Comex to maximum 35 € + 5 €. Additional 5 € the organizer should transfer to the account of the EFC after competition.

D4) For the EFC Eurofence league Ranking all results are counted.

D5) For the initial ranking of fencers is to apply as follows:
Current FIE Senior World Cup ranking
EFC Eurofence league Circuit ranking +1000
The places of non-ranked fencers are drawn randomly.