

# Equipment requirements

## Protection

Fencers are themselves responsible that the equipment they use on the mat is functional and meets tournament requirements.

The equipment checks that take place during the tournament are only to help the organizer to monitor the compliance to the regulations and aid fencers to comply with the same. Equipment checks may not be invoked to eliminate fencers' responsibility in the case of a violation of requirements.

All equipment must be whole, clean and adequate for the tournament. Fencers are to dress professionally and in a manner appropriate to a serious tournament. Loose sweatpants, tatty trousers and dirty clothing are inappropriate. Clothes must overlap so that skin is not exposed at any time. Breeches are therefore highly recommended.

The following equipment is mandatory for all fencers:

- Solid fencing mask with protection for the back of the head
- Throat guard
- Protective jacket
- Gloves suitable for the weapon in question
- Elbow and knee guards (elbows optional for rapier)
- Shin guards
- Shoes
- Athletic cup (optional for women)
- Chest protector (required for rapier, optional for other weapons)

Metal protection aside from the mesh of the mask and steel cups are not allowed.

Throat guards, athletic cup and chest protectors are to be worn under the outermost layer of clothing. Use of additional protective gear is allowed.

## Mask

The mask must be in good condition, with no significant or sharp dents. The mask must fit the fencer so that it does not fall off too easily. The mask must include protection for the back of the head.

## Throat guard

The throat guard must be reasonably rigid and must be worn underneath the fencing jacket.

## Protective jacket

The protective jacket must be reasonably padded and puncture resistant. 350n or more certified jackets are highly recommended. Jackets with armpit holes or jackets that are open in the front are not allowed.

A SPES AP jacket or equivalent is required for longsword, sabre and sword & buckler. For rapier you can use a lighter jacket such as a sport fencing jacket.

## Gloves

Gloves must protect the entire hand except the inside of the palm. If the gloves have an open palm, an inner glove is highly recommended.

Heavy gloves are required for longsword. Sparring gloves, SPES heavies, Köning gloves etc. are recommended. Red Dragon gloves, lacrosse gloves and similar are forbidden.

For sabre and sword & buckler you can use lighter gloves if you prefer, such as Red Dragon gloves or sturdy lacrosse gloves.

For rapier you can use lightly padded gloves.

## Elbow and knee guards

Elbow and knee guards must be rigid and protect the side of the joint as well as the front. They should not displace too easily. Elbow guards are optional for rapier, but highly recommended if you use a light jacket.

## Shin guards

Shin guards must protect the shinbone from the knee guard to the top of the foot.

## Shoes

Shoes must enclose all toes. Hardened soles or caps are not allowed.

## Athletic cup

The athletic cup must be reasonably rigid and may be metal.

## Chest protector

The chest protector must be rigid and cover most of the chest. Chest protectors are required for rapier and optional for other weapons.

## Weapons

Weapons for the longsword and sword & buckler tournaments will be supplied by the organiser.

## Rapiers

Rapier fencers must supply their own rapiers. The rapiers should be typical rapiers with a proper blade. Sidesword blades and epee-like blades are inappropriate.

We would prefer everyone to use a blade of 42" or similar, but if you only have one rapier and the blade is 45" it will be allowed as well, this is the maximum allowed length. The weight should not be excessively light.

The blade must also have a safe tip, preferably a rolled tip, a hard rubber tip, a bullet casing or similar. If you have a 6mm round Danielli tip or similar they should have an additional safety tip!

Darkwood, Danielli, Castille, Kvetun, Regenyei and others are recommended makers. If you are unsure if your sword is suitable please contact the organisers before the event so we can clarify.

## Sabres

Sabre fencers must supply their own sabres. The sabers should be a type of "military sabre", preferably straight or nearly straight. Sport fencing sabres, light "duelling sabres" and very curved sabres are inappropriate.

The blade should not be longer than ca. 85cm and the weight should be around 800-1000g. It should also have a rolled tip or a flared tip.

Regenyei strong sabres are recommended but other brands will be allowed if they are suitable. If you have a sabre that is slightly outside these parameters but you think is suitable, please contact the organizer for clarification.