



**European Fencing Confederation
Confédération Européenne d'Esgrime**

18.06.2015

Information Letter no. 25-2015

Dear Member Federations,

please find attached information from our Technical Director with regard to a new project of U14.

Please watch the deadline of 31.07.2015.

With best regards,

Max Geuter

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European Fencing Confederation Technical Director

To all national federations, members of the EFC

Coming back to the meeting with delegations present in Maribor, as well as further discussion inside of the EFC Executive Committee and some representative of European federations the EFC Technical Director would like to present the project indicated since last two years, aimed at starting higher level of fencing of age category next to cadets – under 14. The study of the situation in different fencing federations showed that at the present, thanks to prepared revision of age categories in France (the federations registering highest number of licenses in Europe), big majority of young fencers in Europe are unified by age category of U14 and there are only few federations with relatively small number of licenses where the category connected to cadets is U15. That way it makes sense and gives a possibility to start unification of age categories in Europe as follows:

U14 – fencers under 14 years old at midnight on the 31st December of the year concerned by given season of competitions

U17 – cadets

U20 – juniors

seniors

Here presented conclusion gives also the opportunity to start the project presented during meeting in Maribor – organising EFC circuit for fencers younger than cadets, i.e. U14.

Basic idea is defined as follows:

- 1) Respecting low age of participants the travel should be limited to reasonable region scope
- 2) It is proposed to create cca 5 regions in Europe without any strict imperative allowing to make arrangement, which will suite as much as possible conditions and interests of fencers of given region.
- 3) In each region could be organised 3 to 5 competitions in given weapon. Final decision will be taken upon proposals from federations.
- 4) It would be strongly recommended that competitions would be organised on the same date and same place for both gender together because it is known that coaches working with young fencers are always having pool of both, boys and girls together.
- 5) Competitions proposed by federations for the Circuit should be those, which are already existing in order to avoid overflow of calendar and considering that still many of those young fencers are already (or will be soon) active in EFC cadets Circuit.
- 6) Regarding administration of the project the EFC would take over that role same as it is at cadets or U23 projects. That also means that EFC license will be obligatory for all participants allowing correct registration of personal data of fencers, treatment of results of competitions and keeping updating of rankings.
- 7) If presented structure of 5 regions will be adopted, then by end of the season 3 tournaments will be organised, each starting with 100 fencers, i.e. 20 best fencers from each region would qualify for that tournament. That event would in fact present unofficial European Championships of U14.
- 8) More consistent rules could be subject of evaluation of results after end of first pilot phase of the project.



European Fencing Confederation Technical Director

- 9) All national federations can submit their proposal of 1 tournament per weapon (so in total 3 tournaments with one tournament in each weapon for boys and girls, but always one tournament on same date and same place for given weapon).
- 10) Proposed deadline for submissions is 31st of July 2015
- 11) The EFC Comex will provide assessment of proposed tournaments and organisers and in cooperation with EFC TD relevant calendar will be established afterwards.

Sincerely yours

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized, cursive 'J' followed by a horizontal line that ends in a small hook.

Julius Kralik
EFC technical Director

Bratislava, June 18, 2015