



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

11.08.2014

Information Letter no. 36-2014

Dear Member Federations,

Some of you might still remember that the EFC/CEE wanted to introduce a referee licence for European referees as a C-category (Continental). Certain objections had always stopped these plans.

Now President Janda has succeeded to follow-up on this project, found financial support by the FFF Fund, and also got the general support within the FIE.

Attached to this letter you will receive a documentation which puts you totally into the picture of our project "European Referees 2016".

With best regards,

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The ideas behind the project

"European Referee 2016"

Objectives of the project:

- To improve the quality and level of refereeing at Cadet Circuit (+ testing at U23 Circuit)
- To introduce the European licence for referees (C – continental), with the possibility of further application for all continents
- To introduce systematic annual training of the European referees without and with the FIE licence
- To introduce the on-line database of the European referees (and referees acting in Europe) and sharing their real activities with the FIE Referees Commission
- To determinate co-responsibility of "FIE professional referees and members of EFC Referees Commission" for the general level of referees in Europe and their obligation to train young referees

Method of implementation:

The EFC will delegate its delegate of Referees Commission for all CC tournaments. His role during the tournament will be combined also with certain obligations of the FIE observateur.

Cadet Circuit consists of 54 tournaments, with 31 tournaments held simultaneously at one place. About 7,500 fencers and about 450 referees (without and with FIE licence) participate in CC.

The delegates will be nominated from the group of people, who will be approved and as the case may be also trained by the FIE Referees Commission. The EFC proposes six members of the EFC Referees Commission (B.Gaby (FRA), J.Lorenzo (ESP), D.Sakhvadze (GEO), M.Ganassin (ITA), V. Shamis (RUS), A.Borsodi (NOR)). After the discussions with FIE RC, we want to supplement this group with 12-15 well-known and experienced European referees with the general authority (language skills, excellent communication



skills, ability to train referees). There would be maximum of two nominations per each member of this group.

The EFC Technical Director will provide all necessary communication and cooperation with the organizers of the individual tournaments.

Tasks of the delegate at the tournament:

- 1. Before the beginning of the tournament** – performs seminar for the registered referees.

(Through the tournaments propositions, all CC referees will be obliged to arrive one hour before the beginning of the tournament for this seminar. Seminar will take up to 45 minutes. Delegate will repeat basic important thesis according the weapon, will explain the news and current explanation of FIE Referees Commission in various cases and will answer the questions from the referees. Syllabus of the seminar will be approved by the FIE Referees Commission. Another task will be to create for each tournament the name list of present referees, their active e-mail addresses and obtained skills at the national level. These data will be later verified. Seminar will be compulsory for all referees including FIE licence holders.)

- 2. During the tournament** delegate will carry out work identical with work of delegate of EFC or FIE Referees Commission.

(Acts as an official EFC representative (the highest authority), further the delegate carries out the observation of referees' work, solves the disputed cases, provides consultations for referees and then makes their simple evaluation. We presume scale: A. fine, B. need to continue to observe, C. unsatisfactory. The National Federations will be continuously informed about the activities and evaluations of referees through TD EFC. All data will be shared with the FIE RC.

- 3. After the tournament**

*(Delegate will prepare and send the EFC short evaluation of the quality of tournament with focus on keeping the time schedule, quality of technical equipment, overall atmosphere, visitors' attendance and overall level of the tournament with the impact on the promotion of fencing. Delegate will also inform about potential excesses, **including, for example, impose of black card**. The delegate will provide this information immediately to TD EFC and EFC will proceed identically with the FIE rules (publication of the list of suspended persons). This will be necessary to implement into EFC Handbook.*



Statistically, 450 – 600 referees participate in CC tournaments (with and without FIE licence), of which approximately 400 participate repeatedly at least at two CC tournaments. By implementing this project, we would train all these referees at least twice during one season. This undoubtedly will significantly contribute to quality improvement of refereeing in general.

The European licence for referees (C) will consist of compulsory test of referee at the national level and attending at least one seminar during the tournament. By this, the referee would automatically obtain qualification (C). The actual licence would be obtained in the same mode as are granted the EFC licences.

By creation of such active database of the European referees with practice at big EFC tournaments, the important **tool for monitoring the preparation of potential candidates for the FIE exams** will be created for the FIE Referees Commission.

(During the FIE referees exams in Jerusalem, I was personally confronted with the fact that the candidates with absolutely no experience in that season arrived for this test. I believe that the FIE RC

should require that the candidate must participate at two CC tournaments in the given season. The FIE RC will have data about their activity on-line from the EFC RC. Should this rule be implemented, for other continents it is possible to accredit similar tournaments on their territory and with the same regime as proposed by this project.)

When nominating the delegates, it is not necessary to follow the principle of “neutrality”. **The main role of the delegate is to train younger colleagues**, help them with interpretation of the rules and deal with the administrative tasks.

(We want to set (for now informally) for all important European FIE referees (top group) the obligation to train new referees. Many National Federations complain that their international referees practically live “outside the Federation” and they do not want to participate in the process of training new referees. To minimize the costs, we intend to nominate the delegates even from the organizing countries or from the neighbouring countries, including the application of language skills.)

The project is designed for two years. Season 2014/2015 would be the pilot season. Final evaluation of the effectiveness and quality of the project will be done after the end of 2015/2016 season. Then it will be decided about further continuation of the project.



The cost of whole project is approximatively estimated at **24,800 Euro**.

(Project assumes active participation of the organizers – accommodation, transport from and to the airport and transport around city. The EFC will cover following delegate's expenses – travel expenses according the EFC rules (plane, 2nd class train, automobile in approved cases, per-diem of 60 Euro including the travel days, transport to the airport at the place of residence. The budget also includes the cost of project management, necessary modifications of software of the EFC portal, and reserve in the amount of 2,800 Euro.)

Work group for the preparation of project:

For EFC – Janda, Geuter, Kralik

For EFC Referees Commission – Lorenzo, Sakhvadze (+whole Referees Commission)

For Competition Commission – Tsouklo

For FIE Referees Commission – Janka

For FIE – Sport Department – Kulcsar

(The whole process of practical administration of the nominations will be done in the identical mode as in FIE via EFC Technical Director's office.)

František Janda

President of the European Fencing Confederation