



# European Fencing Confederation Confédération Européenne d'Esime

June 8, 2020

## Information Letter no. 14-2020

Dear Member-Federations,

We have received a message sent on behalf of the presidents of 7 federations with a proposal to postpone the EFC elections. Considering the importance of the issue the response thereto deserves to be presented to all members of our Confederation.

Ensuring the safety of all members of our large European fencing family is our utmost priority. We are carefully monitoring the development of situation in view of COVID-19 and corresponding restrictions imposed by the National Governments of Europe.

We are considering all possible options for the Elective Congress, including the organization of the Congress as scheduled, implementation of an appropriate procedure to postpone the elections until a later date in 2020, or possibly an electronic vote procedure. All of the options are in line with the deadlines set and observed in compliance with the EFC Statutes and Internal Rules.

Should we be prevented from holding the Elective Congress until the end of 2020 – that will be subject to a separate decision that will be submitted in due course for your approval to take force.

As we cannot predict the future, we should follow the decision of the EFC Congress and abide by our Statutes, therefore we encourage all National Federations to actively participate in the preparations for the EFC Congress and submit your proposals by the deadline of July 12, 2020. For your convenience all forms are attached again hereto.

According to our Statutes, one month before the scheduled date of EFC Congress all documents and proposals are to be circulated to the Member Federations. By this date we will definitely have the final decisions regarding the Ordinary and Elective Congresses. In any case, all preparations for the Congress in Sochi are on time and you will be regularly updated so that all our decisions are taken in the most transparent and democratic way, with due representation and safety.

In addition, the referred message surprisingly declares also the assumed lack of support /from the FIE and EFC/ to help the national federations through this challenging period. That assumption seems unsubstantiated and looks particularly strange in light of the fact that Mr Scarso – the FIE Executive Committee member and one of the message signatories – is fully aware of the activities being carried out during these difficult months in order to ensure the maximum support and assistance to all members of our Fencing Family.



## European Fencing Confederation Confédération Européenne d'Esgrime

Here are some of the facts that speak for themselves:

### February

- The FIE changed the venue of several competitions planned in China and Korea without delay;
- Assistance was provided to several federations in securing visas that were denied or difficult to obtain.

### March

- Organization of a men's sabre competition in Luxembourg at the expense of the FIE and in cooperation with the national federations of Germany, Luxembourg and France instead of the cancelled Radov tournament;
- Establishment of a special fund by the FIE President to assist national federations to participate in and hold the competitions;
- National federations are being updated of new cases and the measures taken on a regular basis;
- Consultations with the IOC on the holding of XXXII Olympic Games fencing tournament.

### April/May

- Establishment of a special taskforce on COVID-19;
- Consultations with experts of relevant FIE and EFC bodies on possible measures of appropriate response to the pandemic;
- Review and compensation to the extent reasonably possible for expenses incurred by the federations after cancellation/postponement of a series of tournaments.

### June

- Development of competition guidelines and the creation of a "COVID-19 Program" aimed at providing large-scale financial assistance to the entire fencing community;
- Substantial measures discussed and decisions taken by the FIE Executive Committee on all vital aspects of support to our sport in the current circumstances.

### July

- Allocation of assistance, fundraising and additional measures to support the National Federations to be discussed by the EFC COMEX within the framework of an online meeting on July 20, 2020.



## European Fencing Confederation Confédération Européenne d'Esgrime

However, duly considering the variety of approaches implemented across Europe, we repeatedly encourage all our member-federations, clubs, and other fencing stakeholders to take advantage of sharing the knowledge and expertise.

We will keep you updated.

#StayStrong  
#StayActive  
#StayHealthy

Best regards,

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**Jacek SLUPSKI**  
**Secretary General**