

*2012 Dagger Fencing Association
Official Rulebook*



www.daggerfencing.com

Preface

The Dagger Fencing Association (DFA) was created specifically to promote a new contact sport that reflects main gauche and rapier style blade work of the early Renaissance. Much of the FIE & USFA rules were integrated into this document so individuals versed in Olympic Fencing will easily adapt, providing they have sufficient ambidextrous skill to master the centuries old techniques. The main difference between Olympic épée fencing and this sport is the elimination of tethered scoring equipment to allow unlimited footwork in a round or square piste.

All portions of this document not directly cited from the FIE & USFA are the sole property of the DFA and cannot be copied, sold or re-printed for any reason without expressed written consent from the Dagger Fencing Association.

The rules established in this document are set forth by the Dagger Fencing Committee (DFC) and revised when appropriate. All fencers, judges, referees and other personnel actively involved in competitions are expected to be aware of the latest changes by reviewing this electronic document at www.daggerfencing.com before each competition. The DFA is committed to communicating the specific changes for each revision to referees, coaches, judges and fencers in a timely manner.

Ignorance of the rules and regulations is no excuse.

Numbering System

The numbering system and content in this document differs from the FIE & USFA rules and regulations. For instance, the reader should note there is no separate Technical, Organizational and Material rule book. The Articles are in numerical order and the Appendix section contains a list of offences, score sheets, technical data and other required attachments.

This document begins each calendar year with a revision number “0” followed by subsequent revisions respectively. Any change, regardless of how minuscule, will go into effect immediately. All revisions can be found in the Appendix section of this document.

Glossary of Terms

All definitions can be found in the “Definitions” section of the www.daggerfencing.com website.

Note from the Chairman

The DFA combines the principles of ethics, moral standards and sporting loyalty as the main values which set forth the legitimate activity to this new and exciting contact sport worldwide. Through the concerted action of all its members the DFA, commonly known as the Dagger Fencing Association will act within the frame work of our fundamental principles set forth by the Dagger Fencing Committee (DFC) for the sole purpose of maintaining integrity and strengthening autonomy within the sport for the professional and amateur enthusiast.

In agreement with other fencing organizations the same principles will be integrated in order to create and promote the sport and the issues directly related to fencers. The DFA, in cooperation with any organization related to the sport of fencing in those countries where this activity is fully supported for Olympic and professional events will support those organizations to achieve common goals for the success of our sport on a global basis.

The DFA is committed to making Dagger Fencing a safe and exciting venue for everyone. I would like to personally acknowledge those who work diligently to make this new contact sport for fencers and spectators world wide a success. To those who contribute their time at each event, especially the volunteers and staff, we thank you.

Sincerely,

David Falcon

Chairman of the DFC

Table of Contents

Dagger Fencing Technical Rules

The Field of Play	1.0
Exceptions to field of play	2.0
Responsibility of fencers	3.0
Proper utilization of the weapons	4.0
Coming on guard	5.0
Beginning, stopping and restarting the duel	6.0
Illegal entry and leaving the piste	7.0
Fencing rules in the piste	8.0
Contact with the piste	9.0
Use of weapons to block or bind the opponent	10.0
Tampering with scoring device	11.0
Ground gained or lost	12.0
Crossing the limits of the piste	13.0
Leaving the piste accidentally	14.0
Duration of the duel	15.0
Time allowed between duels	16.0
Time out for injuries during competition	17.0
Withdrawal from a competition	18.0
The referee	19.0
Referee safety	20.0
Judges	21.0
Method of judging a touch	22.0
Validity or priority of the touch	23.0
DFA requirements for equipment	24.0
Pre-duel protocol	25.0
Regulations for non authorized personnel	26.0
Non regulation equipment & appearance	27.0
Equipment damaged during a duel	28.0
Fencer identification & classification	29.0
Obstructions and raised platforms	30.0
Use of dagger and épée weapon for making a touch	31.0
Fencers target area	32.0
Body positioning & flèche attacks	33.0
Physical contact during a duel	34.0
Points scored & tie score	35.0
Double and quadruple touches	36.0
The annulment of touches	37.0
Equipment failure during a duel	38.0
Special cases in scoring	39.0
Conductive material on piste	40.0
Compliance to the DFA rules	41.0
Maintenance and order of discipline specific to Dagger Fencing	42.0
Electronic Devices	43.0
Code of conduct for DFA events	44.0
Participants pledge	45.0
Managers, trainers & spectators	46.0
Fencing etiquette	47.0
Punctuality in the piste	48.0
Intentional non-combat from both participants	49.0
Intentional non-combat from one opponent	50.0
Intentionally refusing to fence to full potential	51.0

Completion of duel	52.0
Post equipment handling after a duel	53.0
Penalty structure	54.0
Penalty types	55.0
Authorities and their competence	56.0
DFC	57.0
Referee responsibility	58.0
Judges responsibility	59.0
DFC Chairman	60.0
Security & medical personnel	61.0
Auxiliary personnel	62.0
Fencer exclusion, disqualification or expulsion	63.0
Right to appeal during a duel	64.0
Expulsion from an event	65.0
Dagger Fencing disciplinary procedure	66.0
Zero policy for drugs	67.0
Registration for combat	68.0
Open competition & statistics	69.0
National competitions	70.0
World cup competition	71.0

Dagger Fencing Technical Rules

1.0 The Field of Play

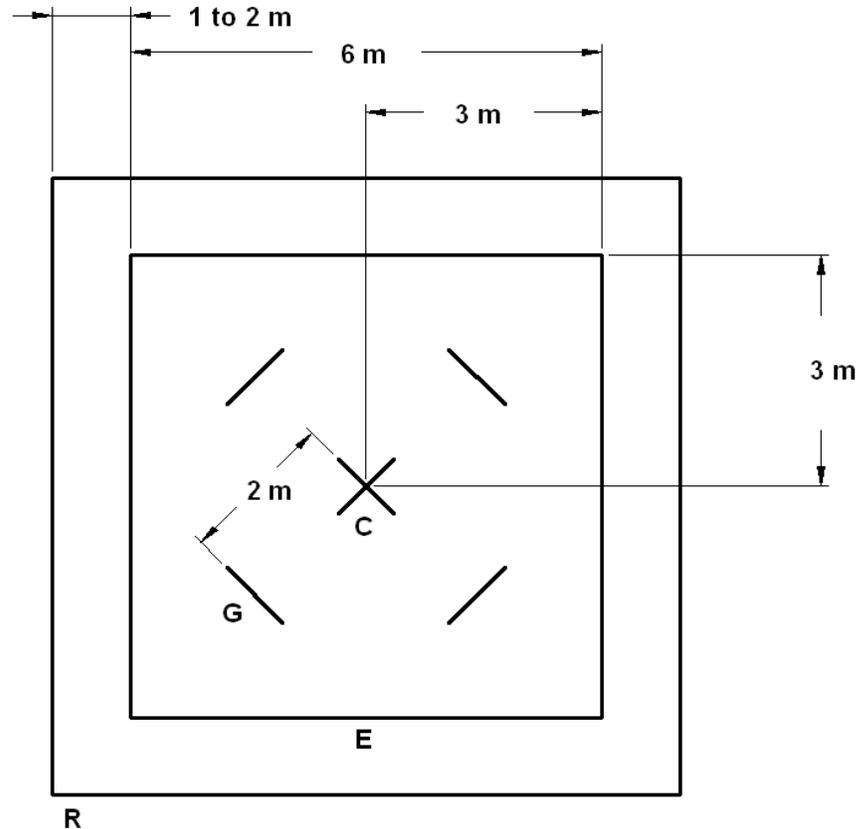


Figure 1 (dimensions are in meters)

C = Center lines

E = End of Piste

G = On guard lines

R= Run back (piste extension)

The field of play will be constructed of an even surface. It should give neither advantage nor disadvantage to either of the two fencers concerned, especially in regards to light. All competitions are fenced on a piste from 8 meters to 10 meters square or from 8 to 10 meters in diameter depending upon the arena. Each competitor is placed at 2 meters from the centre line to begin a duel. The fencers must not cross the limit of the piste with both feet. Six lines should be drawn very clearly on the piste as follows:

- 1.1 Two *center lines* which must be drawn parallel to each corner of the piste 1.5 to 2 meters in length.
- 1.2 Two *on guard lines* parallel at 2 meters from each center line 1.5 to 2 meters in length
- 1.3 One square 6 meter line to designate the end of the piste
- 1.4 One line ≥ 8 meters and ≤ 10 meters to designate the runback or extension of the piste. The last 1 to 2 meters of the piste must be clearly distinguished (if possible by a different color) to give awareness to the fencers of their position on the piste (see Figure 1 for dimensions and layout of a square piste).

2.0 Exceptions to field of play

- 2.1 When fencing in a boxing ring with ropes or a cage, the end of the piste (line E in Figure 1) will be measured 1 to 2 meters in from the ropes.
- 2.2 When fencing in a circular arena, the end of the piste (line E in Figure 1) will be measured 1 to 2 meters in from the perimeter of the circle.
- 2.3 When fencing in a standard épée strip with standard scoring equipment

3.0 Responsibility of fencers

Fencers will supply their own equipment and clothing and participate at their own risk. The safety measures specified in this document by the Dagger Fencing Committee are intended to aid the fencers' safety, not guarantee it. Fencers therefore cannot, whatever the manner in which they are applied, impart responsibility to the DFC, or to the organizers of competitions, to the officials or personnel who carry out such organization, or to those who may cause an accident.

4.0 Proper utilization of the weapons

Weapons will be wielded properly at all times; failure to comply will result in penalties per Appendix 1.

- 4.1 With the dagger or the épée, defense must be affected exclusively with the guard and the blade. Both weapons can be used separately or together.
- 4.2 The épée handle can have either a straight or an orthopedic grip. The fencer must hold the épée in such a way that the upper surface of the thumb is on the same plane as the wire groove and the point is facing the opponent while on guard.
- 4.3 The dagger must be held in a way that places the thumb on the same plane as the dagger blade at all times during a duel.
- 4.4 Neither weapon is permitted to be transformed into a throwing weapon or be allowed to move out of the hand along the hilt from front to back during an offensive action.
- 4.5 Each weapon must be held in the same hand for the entire duration while fencing an opponent in the piste. A fencer can only change weapon hands after the duel is completed.

5.0 Coming on guard

The fencer who is called first into the piste will be assigned the green scoring light. The second fencer will be assigned the red scoring light. The referee will place each of the two competitors 2 meters from the center line of the piste behind the on guard lines. When placed on guard during the duel, the distance between the two competitors must be such that, in the position of point in-line, the points of the opponents' épée blades cannot make contact. After the scoring of a valid touch the competitors are placed back on guard in the middle of the piste. If no touch is awarded and the referee calls, "Halt" the fencers will immediately stop all action and be placed on guard at the designated position assigned from the referee. At the beginning of each period and any additional minute of fencing time, the fencers are placed on guard in the middle of the piste. If a fencer has crossed the lateral boundaries of the piste, he or she will be placed on the on guard line nearest the point he or she was found leaving the piste. Competitors come on guard when the referee gives the order, "En-guard," after which the referee asks, "Are you ready?" On receiving an affirmative reply, or in the absence of a negative reply, the referee gives the command to "Fence."

- 5.1 Rotation: Referee will rotate fencers at the on guard lines after each point is scored

6.0 Beginning, stopping and restarting the duel

The competitors must come on guard correctly and remain completely still until the command, "Fence" is given by the referee. Any points or advancement by the opponents before the word "Fence" is null and void. To stop a duel the word, "Halt" will be used. If a competitor stops an action before the word "Halt" and is touched, said touch is valid. The referee may also use the order to halt if the fencing of the competitors is dangerous, confused, or contrary to the rules.

7.0 Illegal entry and leaving the piste

No fencer is allowed to leave the piste during competition. If a fencer leaves the piste voluntarily they will forfeit the duel. Managers, spectators and all other personnel besides the fencers and referee are prohibited from entering the piste for any reason while a duel is in progress and the referee did not call, "Halt." Fencers who do not comply will be penalized per Appendix 1.

8.0 Fencing rules in the piste

A fencer may fletch past and turn their back on the opponent while fencing in the piste. Fencing at close quarters is permitted providing both competitors can wield at least one weapon correctly. Corps à corps is said to exist when the two competitors are in bodily contact; when this occurs the referee will call "Halt." It is forbidden for a fencer to cause corps à corps intentionally to avoid being touched, or to jostle the opponent. During such an offence, the referee will penalize the fencer at fault per Appendix 1. A fencer who deliberately steps off the piste to stop action or by charging the opponent will be penalized per Appendix 1.

9.0 Contact with the piste

A fencer is considered to make contact with the piste when a portion of their body (besides the sole of the foot) touches the piste. When this occurs the referee has the option to call, "Halt" or allow the duel to continue if the fencer has control of at least one blade. When a fencer accidentally falls or trips and both hands come in contact with the piste the referee will immediately call, "Halt" and place both fencers back on guard.

10.0 Use of weapons to block or bind the opponent

The use of one or both weapons to bind or block an opponent's blade is permitted. No fencer will use one or both blades to intentionally bind or block any portion of an opponent's body. Such violation will result in being penalized to the second degree with a (red card) per Appendix 1.

11.0 Tampering with scoring device

Before, during and after a duel, the fencer must not, under any circumstances, take hold of any part of the body cord wires or scoring equipment. If the scoring equipment is dislodged from a fencer the referee will call, "Halt" and the equipment will be re-positioned. Both fencers will then be reset on guard nearest the position where the equipment was dislodged. Any fencer found in violation of this rule will be penalized per Appendix 1.

12.0 Ground gained or lost

When the order, "Halt" is given, both fencers will immediately stop all action and remain standing in the piste. The referee will order one fencer to remain in position until the opposing fencer retreats to proper on guard distance OR, (depending on the reason for stopping the duel) reset both fencers at the on guard line.

13.0 Crossing the limits of the piste

When a fencer crosses one of the lateral boundaries of the piste with both feet the referee must immediately call "Halt" then annul any touch that may have occurred by the fencer at fault who crossed the boundary. If the opposing fencer scored a touch at the same time the referee called, "Halt" that point will be awarded. If both fencers leave the piste with both feet at the same time then any points scored during the action will be annulled. Only a touch made by the fencer who remains in the piste with at least one foot in bounds can be counted valid, even in the case of a double touch. When a fencer deliberately crosses the limit of the piste completely with both feet to avoid a touch they will be penalized as specified in the Appendix 1.

14.0 Leaving the piste accidentally

A competitor, who unintentionally crosses one of the boundaries of the piste as the result of any accidental cause such as jostling or immediately after a fletch attack, incurs no penalty. The referee will immediately call; "Halt" and place the fencers back at the on guard line.

15.0 Duration of the duel

The duration of the duel is to imply the effective duration or total time between the orders, "Fence" and "Halt." The duration of the duel is registered by the referee or by a time keeper. For all official competitions, as well as for all duels for which a chronometer is visible to the spectators, the chronometer must be so placed that it is visible to the two fencers on the piste and to the referee. The effective duration of a duel is:

- 15.1 Three rounds consisting of 5 minutes with a one minute break between each round for major championships.
- 15.2 One round consisting of 3 minutes for qualifying and eliminations.

The fencers may ask how much time they have left to fence each time the fencing is interrupted. At the expiration of the regulation fencing time, a loud audible signal will automatically stop the scoring apparatus without canceling touches registered before the clock stops. The duel officially ends with an audible signal. Should there be a failure of the clock or an error by the time keeper, the referee must estimate the remaining time (when required) and reset the time to the clock.

16.0 Time allowed between duels

Fencers will be allowed a minimum of 10 minutes rest before fencing the next opponent during a competition.

17.0 Time out for injuries during competition

For an injury which occurs in the course of a duel the referee will call, "Halt" and allow sufficient time for the injured fencer to recover and or be examined by medical personnel on duty. The injured fencer must IMMEDIATELY decide to continue the duel or withdraw from the competition. When a fencer demands a time out with no signs of being injured or, the referee believes the time out to be unjustified, the fencer will be penalized per Appendix 1.

18.0 Withdrawal from a competition

When a fencer cannot complete a duel the opponent is declared the winner and any points scored during the duel is recorded for both fencers. A fencer who withdrawals forfeits the competition but all points and wins up to the time of the withdrawal will be recorded for that day.

19.0 The referee

All Dagger Fencing duels will be directed by a referee who must be in possession of an up-to-date USA or International Referee License. The referee will conduct the following during all events:

- 19.1 Call the fencers into the piste
- 19.2 Pledge to both competitors he or she will be unbiased, honest and conduct a fair duel
- 19.3 Directs all functions and record keeping of the event
- 19.4 Inspect the weapons, clothing and equipment of each fencer in the piste before a duel
- 19.5 Check clock, audile signal device and scoring apparatus are in proper working order before, during and after duel
- 19.6 Maintains a close yet safe distance from the fencers while in the piste during a duel
- 19.7 Keeps order and discipline between fencers at all times

- 19.8 Awards touches
- 19.9 Delivers penalties
- 19.10 Expels fencers, managers and any personnel from the arena who do not conduct themselves properly

20.0 Referee safety

Dagger Fencing is a fast paced sport involving multiple weapons moving simultaneously. The referee must pay close attention to the blade actions and therefore is required to wear safety glasses, goggles or a fencing mask while in the piste at all times; NO EXCEPTIONS.

21.0 Judges

The referee fulfills the duty of fair play with the assistance of electric scoring apparatus connected to each fencer. To assist the referee in certain situations where a secondary judgment call is required, a judge or judges will be counseled when necessary. The judge(s) are placed directly outside the piste and watch all aspects of the entire duel. To eliminate any bias, or when a referee call is contested, the use of instant replay television cameras will be reviewed when available. When the referee call is still uncertain the point and or infraction will be annulled. The judges will fully commit to their appointed duties with complete impartiality, honesty and integrity at all times.

22.0 Method of judging a touch

Every touch is established from the indications of the scoring apparatus and when necessary by consulting the judges during a duel. Only the electrical apparatus as indicated by the green and red lamps can be taken into consideration for judging touches. Under no circumstances can the referee declare a competitor to be touched unless the touch has been properly registered by the scoring apparatus. The referee can annul a touch or award a penalty touch and consult the instant replay television cameras when a touch is uncertain by the referee and the judge(s). The referee will annul any touch that should not have been registered by the scoring apparatus and re-inspect all weapons and equipment whenever a malfunction occurs that should have registered a touch before calling the fencers back to on guard position.

23.0 Validity of the touch

As soon as the duel has stopped, the referee reconstructs briefly the movements which composed the last fencing phrase to decide the validity of a touch or double touch. Referees may review instant reply with the judge(s) should a touch be deemed uncertain. After reaching the final decision regarding the materiality of a touch, the referee, by applying the rules, will have the final decision against which fencer(s) a touch is to be awarded.

24.0 DFA requirements for equipment

The organizers of all official DFA competitions must make provision in their set-up for an assembly area. Fencers scheduled for a duel will report to this assembly area 30 minutes before a competition. Their weapons & equipment will be checked under the responsibility of the designated experts.

- 24.1 Each mask will be checked that it was manufactured to withstand a force of 800 n
- 24.2 Both dagger and épée hands of each fencer will be equipped with regulation DFA gloves
- 24.3 Each jacket will be verified to close from the back and was manufactured to withstand a force of 800 n
- 24.4 All fencers will wear and display their full body plastic plastron to the referee
- 24.5 The body cords will be checked for DFA identification
- 24.6 Each épée and dagger weapon must be equipped with an FIE and or DFA approved blade

- 24.7 Pants or knickers must be worn with socks and completely cover the fencers' legs
- 24.8 Fencing shoes are checked to have non-marring soles
- 24.9 Groin protection is present for both men and women

If any non-conformance is identified with the fencers' equipment, it must be changed at once, without any penalty applied. After equipment inspection is completed the weapons and body cords will be checked by the referee prior to the duel against the scoring equipment. If the equipment fails to register, the fencer will immediately replace any defective equipment or forfeit the duel. Any fencer found in possession of non-regulation equipment before, during or after a duel will be penalized per Appendix 1.

25.0 Pre-duel protocol

Only the referee, DFA officials and the fencers will be allowed in the assembly area during equipment inspection. The referee will first assign a green & red scoring color to each fencer before completing a preliminary check of weapons and body cords against the scoring equipment per Appendix 2. When each fencer is satisfied with the inspection and working order of two (2) épée, dagger and body cords, their equipment, along with the wireless scoring devices will be placed into an armory cart that consists of two compartments marked green & red for the perspective fencers. Before a duel the following will be strictly observed:

- 25.1 The referee will witness both fencers are wearing regulation full body under-jacket plastron and groin protection and possess no electronic devices.
- 25.2 The fencers will run the body cords inside their jackets and then put on each glove. The referee will then attach the scoring equipment to the body cords for each fencer.
- 25.3 Each fencer will then give a "Ready" signal to the referee for the announcer to begin the competition.
- 25.4 The referee will wait in the assembly area as each fencer is called into the piste then immediately follow with the armory cart in his or her possession at all times towards the piste.
- 25.5 The announcer will then ask each fencer to, "choose your weapons" and the fencers will pick their personal épée and dagger from the armory cart. The referee will then have each fencer test both weapons for proper ground against opposing guards and then against the opponent for a score signal check from the scoring apparatus.
- 25.6 When all equipment is checked and functioning properly the duel can commence.
- 25.7 The remaining weapons and equipment in the armory cart are placed in a designated area next to the piste clearly visible to the referee & fencers at all times during the duel. This Armory is off limits to anyone except the referee before during and after a duel.
- 25.8 In addition to the inspections mentioned above, the referee, fencers or members of the DFC may request additional weapons and equipment inspections before during or after a duel.

26.0 Regulations for non authorized personnel

The fencers' assistant, manager or other member of his or her party must wait outside the assembly area during all pre-duel inspections and stay out side the boundaries of the piste during a duel.

27.0 Non regulation equipment & appearance

In whatever circumstances a fencer is found to be in possession of equipment which is non regulation or defective, this equipment will be immediately confiscated and submitted to the experts on duty for examination. The equipment in question will only be returned to the fencer after the measures necessitated by the examination have been completed. If the

equipment in question was defective and can be immediately repaired, it must be rechecked before the fencer can use the equipment in the duel.

If a fencer enters an event:

- 27.1 With only one regulation, operational dagger conforming to the DFA rules
- 27.2 With only one regulation, operational épée conforming to the DFA rules
- 27.3 With only one regulation, operational body cord
- 27.4 With a weapon(s) or body cord(s) which do not work or do not conform to the DFA rules
- 27.5 Without mask, gloves, full body under-plastron and groin protection
- 27.6 With clothing that does not conform to the DFA rules
- 27.7 With any body art or costume that is considered non-conforming to the DFA
- 27.8 With hair unfastened in a way as to protrude down over the fencers face, name or alias on the back of the jacket
- 27.9 Any embellishments on their uniform (patches, advertising logos, etc.) which appear loose or not fastened securely

The referee will allow the fencer to immediately correct the non-conformance or the fencer will forfeit the duel.

28.0 Non conforming equipment & appearance

When equipment is found to be non-conforming from an action which could have been caused by conditions during a duel, the referee will apply neither warning nor penalty but any touch scored at the time of discovery will be awarded. The fencer will then be allowed sufficient time to replace the non-conforming equipment from the Armory.

- 28.1 If a uniform or glove is torn during the duel and deemed to be unsafe by the referee, no warning or penalty will apply and the fencer will be allowed to replace the defective clothing or forfeit the duel.
- 28.2 All changes of uniform or the body cord must be done in the assembly area under the supervision of DFA personnel. No fencer will be allowed to disrobe any portion of clothing in the piste or in view of the spectators.
- 28.3 During the course of a duel, any fencer whose weapon, at the moment he or she presents on guard and ready to fence, has a curve in a blade excessive to that permitted by the referee must straighten the weapon with their foot on the un-grounded portion of the piste or by hand before the duel will commence. Failure to conform to the rule is subject to penalty as specified in Appendix 1.
- 28.4 If a fencer is found to be in possession of equipment that becomes non-conforming during a duel, the referee will have the fencer immediately replace the non-conforming equipment before the duel can commence.
 - 28.4.1 When a fencer has exhausted any two of the same weapon (épée or dagger) they have the option to continue the duel using only one (1) of the remaining weapons specific to that hand only.
- 28.5 If equipment is found that does not conform to DFA rules (even if it passed the preliminary check) or bears fraudulent identification, the referee will penalize the fencer as specified in Appendix 1.

29.0 Fencer identification & classification

Every fencer must appear on the piste with their last name or alias clearly printed on back of the uniform parallel to the fencers' shoulders with the nationality directly underneath in non-removable letters with a contrasting color to the jacket that is clearly legible. The printed identification of the fencer must be clearly visible during all duels, no exceptions.

- 29.1 Individual classification: A person who fences under his or her own name and nationality.
- 29.2 Alias classification: A person who registers with the DFA under an assumed name and wishes to remain anonymous. No specific country designation is required for an Alias. The Alias name is non-transferable. Note: Photo identification must be presented and match with the DFA Alias registration prior to all duels; no exceptions. The Alias must still register for competitions in his or her country of residence; no exceptions
- 29.3 When a fencer is found to have registered under a different name or country of origin, that fencer will be disqualified per Appendix 1.

30.0 Obstructions and raised platforms

Fencers are not allowed to come in contact with obstructions when fencing in a boxing ring, cage or any other type of arena. When necessary the playing field will be reduced to keep fencers at a safe distance from these obstructions during competition. While fencing on a raised platform ropes or a suitable railing must be in place to prevent the fencer or referee from falling off the platform during a duel.

31.0 Use of dagger and épée weapon for making a touch

The dagger and épée are thrusting weapons only. Attacks with either weapon are therefore made with the point, and with the point only. Pushing or dragging either electric weapon on the piste is forbidden during the actual duel (between Fence and Halt). Straightening a weapon on a grounded piste or deliberate stabbing of the piste will be penalized per Appendix 1.

32.0 Fencers target area

In dagger the target includes the whole of the fencer's body, clothing and equipment with the exception to the unprotected area behind the mask. Therefore, any point on the shaded target area counts as a touch* illustrated in Figure 2 of this document.

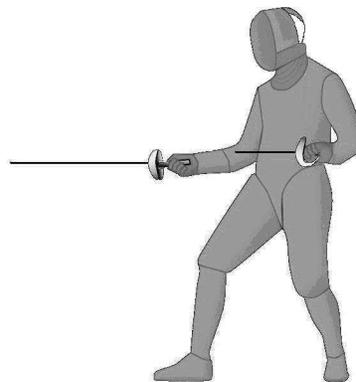


Figure 2 Valid target (shaded area only)*

- 32.1 Any fencer who deliberately targets the unprotected back portion of the opponents mask will be penalized per Appendix 1.

33.0 Body positioning & flèche attacks

Dagger Fencing allows the body to be positioned in any direction during a duel. A fencer is allowed to have his or her back turned towards the opponent while making and or preparing for an attack or defensive maneuver.

A flèche made by running, even going past the opponent without intentional corps à corps is acceptable. The referee will not call, "Halt" unless the fencer who makes the flèche leaves the boundaries of the piste or intentionally causes a corps à corps with his or her opponent.

34.0 Physical contact during a duel

In Dagger Fencing, a fencer who either by a flèche attack or by advancing vigorously brings about a corps à corps even several times in succession (without brutality or violence) does not transgress the basic conventions of fencing and commits no penalty. Fencers who intentionally cause the corps à corps to avoid being touched are penalized according to Appendix 1.

34.1 Any deliberate contact of the opponent which is considered intentional brutality will not be tolerated and penalized per Appendix 1.

35.0 Points scored & tie score

Dagger Fencing does not adhere to a set number of points scored to declare the winner. Fencers can only win by scoring more points than his or her opponent during the course of the duel. Only the indications of the electrical scoring apparatus can be taken into consideration for judging the materiality of touches. The referee cannot declare a competitor to be touched unless the touch has been properly registered by the apparatus (except when a penalty touch has been awarded).

35.1 When fencers are tied at the end of the final round, sudden death will commence until a single touch is registered to declare the winner. Sudden death will have no time limit and the competition will end upon the final winning touch.

36.0 Double and quadruple touches

When both competitors are touched simultaneously and the apparatus registers both touches as valid, there is a double touch that awards 1 point scored for each competitor. In instances when all 4 weapons register simultaneously the referee will treat the action as a double touch and award only a single point to each fencer.

37.0 The annulment of touches

In arriving at the judgment, the referee will disregard touches which are registered as a result of:

37.1 Opponent(s) started before the word "Fence" or after the word "Halt"

37.2 Two weapon points contact during a duel and register a touch

37.3 Contact made on any object other than the scoring area of opponent

37.4 A touch made on the ground where it is not insulated

A fencer who intentionally causes a weapon to register a touch by placing the point on any surface other than the opponent will be penalized per Appendix 1.

38.0 Equipment failure during a duel

The referee must take note of possible failures of the electrical equipment and in the following circumstances:

38.1 If a touch made on the guard of the competitor against whom the touch was registered or, the conductive piste causes the apparatus to register a touch.

38.2 If a touch properly made by the competitor against whom the touch was registered does not cause the scoring apparatus to register a touch.

38.3 If the scoring apparatus unexpectedly registers a touch on the side of the competitor against whom the touch was registered, for example, after a beat on the blade, by any movements of his opponent, or as a result of any cause other than a properly made touch.

39.0 Special cases in scoring

39.1 If a double touch is registered and one touch is valid and the other is not valid (such as a touch made on some surface other than the opponent or a touch made after leaving the piste) only the valid touch is scored.

39.2 If a double touch is registered by an established touch and a doubtful touch (failure of the electrical apparatus) the fencer who made the established touch may choose to accept the double touch or ask to have it annulled. The electrical failure must be determined immediately under the supervision of the referee and without changing any of the equipment in use. Once the equipment failure has been determined the faulty equipment will be replaced and the equipment re-tested for proper operation before the duel can resume.

39.3 A competitor who makes any modification in, or changes their equipment without being asked by the referee to do so, before a judgment is pronounced, loses the right to the annulment of a touch after coming on guard or after the duel has effectively recommenced.

39.4 It is not necessary the equipment failure should repeat itself each time a test is made in order to justify the annulment of a touch but it is essential that the fault should be established by the referee without the least possibility of doubt at least once during the test(s).

39.5 If the incidents mentioned occur as a result of the competitor's body cord being unplugged from either hand, the fencer cannot justify the annulment of the touch registered.

39.6 The fact that a dagger or épée of has large or small areas of insulation formed by oxidation, by glue, paint or any other material on the guards, on the blades or elsewhere, on which the opponent's touches can cause a touch to be signaled, or that the electric tips are badly fixed to the end of the blades so they can be unscrewed or tightened by hand, cannot justify the annulment of touches registered against that competitor. Fencers are responsible for the functionality and maintenance of his or her equipment.

39.7 When a competitor against whom a touch has been registered has broken a blade(s), the touch must be annulled unless the breaking of the blade(s) occurred after the touch has been registered.

39.8 If a competitor tears the conductive piste by a touch made on the ground and, at the same time, the scoring apparatus registers a touch against the opponent, the touch must be annulled.

39.9 If a touch is considered as doubtful by the referee and the Judges it must be annulled.

39.10 The referee must pay particular attention to touches which are not registered or which are registered abnormally. Should the situation become such as to interfere with the duel, the referee must have the electrical scoring apparatus inspected by an expert technician on duty to verify the equipment conforms to manufacturers specifications. The referee must ensure that nothing was altered in the competitors' equipment or in any part of the electrical scoring apparatus before the expert makes the check.

40.0 Conductive material on piste

The referee must supervise the condition of the conductive piste and not allow the duel to continue if the conductive piste was damaged and now registers touches or could cause an accident to the fencer. The organizers of the event are responsible for the rapid repair and or replacement of the conductive piste. The referee will call, "Time Out" until the repairs are completed. If necessary the fencers will return under supervision to the assembly area until repairs are complete.

41.0 Compliance to the DFA rules

All persons who attend Dagger Fencing events must abide by the rules. Ignorance of the rules by fencers, managers, DFA personnel and spectators is no excuse. Extra rules may apply to adhere with specific regulations set forth by the establishment including but not limited to all state and local laws.

42.0 Maintenance and order of discipline specific to Dagger Fencing

The venue chosen for any Dagger Fencing event may also be used before, during or after the competition for other activities not directly associated with the DFA. Therefore all participants must obey the rules for the competition in which they are directly associated with and adhere to the instructions set forth by the officials at all times. Anyone who enters the facility is a guest to the competition and expected to behave in an orderly fashion. Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated from spectators and the referee will immediately stop any activity which disrupts a duel. Any person who disturbs the competition at any time, for any reason will be evicted from the premises.

43.0 Illegal electronic devices

43.1 If a fencer alters his or her equipment to allow the recording of touches or disables the scoring apparatus at will or, is allegedly equipped with illegal electronic communication or scoring equipment the referee must immediately confiscate the equipment or have the fencer searched in the assembly area by a DFA official on duty. Any infraction found will penalize the fencer as specified in Appendix 1.

43.1.1 While awaiting the decision, the duel will be suspended until all facts have been collected and brought forth to the referee and the judges.

43.2 No electronic devices of any kind are permitted to be operational during a competition including, but not limited to, communication devices, laptops or cameras by anyone with the exception of official DFA personnel. Any person who refuses to stop operating an electronic device during a duel will be asked to leave the arena until the duel is completed.

44.0 Code of conduct for DFA events

Anyone who participates, volunteers or is employed for a DFA event is expected to behave in an orderly fashion. Person(s) found guilty of any one of the following offences will be expelled from the DFA for a period of one year for the first offense and permanent expulsion after the second offense. The offenses are, but not limited to:

44.1 Repeated use of foul and or offensive language before, during or after an event

44.2 Individual(s) found to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol before or during an event

44.3 Person(s) found guilty tampering with an event in any way for any reason

44.4 Any person(s) who loudly object to the decision(s) of any DFA personnel

44.5 Any person (whether a DFA member or not) who attempts to bribe anyone for any reason before, during or after any event will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law and banned from all future DFA activities.

45.0 Participants pledge

Dagger Fencing is a privilege to be honored by maintaining a code of ethics and respect for the referees, judges, officials, spectators & fellow fencers.

45.1 A fencer shall willfully compete against any opponent. Failure to do so will result in a forfeit of the duel

45.2 Competitors will be at the event 1 hour before the initial duel and ready to fence at the appropriate time

45.3 Fencers pledge to keep their weapons, clothing and equipment in safe working order at all times

- 45.4 Fencers will have at least 2 of each weapon and at least 2 body cords ready for inspection by the referee one hour before the event
- 45.5 If a fencer is using an Alias they will provide photo identification to the DFA 1 hour before the event
- 45.6 Any costume or painted mask must be inspected by the referee 1 hour before the event for approval even if the costume or mask was already approved at a previous event
- 45.7 Fencers will agree to drug screening at any time while he or she is a member of the DFA; no exceptions
- 45.8 Fencers pledge to conduct themselves in a sporting manner and not willfully attempt to hurt an opponent through the use of excessive force or brutality
- 45.9 Fencers will submit any objection to a decision(s) from an official DFA representative in writing no later than 30 days from the occurrence to the Chairman of the organization

46.0 Managers, trainers & spectators

The piste is off limits to all managers & trainers during a duel unless summoned into the piste by the referee. All spectators will remain civil while a duel is in progress. No person(s) should interfere with the duel in any way and respect the decisions of the referee, judges and DFA staff. The announcer will plead to all persons present at the event before the duel to uphold this request for the benefit of the fencers.

47.0 Fencing etiquette

All duels will begin with a courteous salute to the opponent, referee and spectators by crossing the blades and presenting a bow. Fencers have the option to keep masks on for entire duration of the duel. Before, during and after the duel both fencers will pay strict attention to the referee.

- 47.1 Fencers will not use a weapon(s) in a violent manner or strike anything other than his or her opponent
- 47.2 All DFA participants are expected to conduct themselves in a civil manner at all times on and off the piste before, during and after an event.
- 47.3 Fencers will not talk back to or argue with the referee, spectators, members of the DFA or any other personnel associated with the event at any time for any reason.
- 47.4 Any act of intentional violence that causes harm to the referee, opponent or anyone else present at the event will result in permanent expulsion from the DFA and possible criminal charges per state or local laws.

Any code of misconduct will result penalties per Appendix 1.

48.0 Punctuality in the piste

The fencers must be present and ready to fence at the time announced. Once inside the piste, fencers must be completely ready to fence with regulation clothing, protective jacket fastened, both sword-hands gloved holding the weapons and scoring equipment connected. If the mask is not already on the opponent it should be carried under the dagger arm until the duel begins.

49.0 Intentional non-combat from both participants

Dagger Fencing is a combat sport and fencers are expected to engage their opponent. When both fencers demonstrate unwillingness to fence (complete absence of sword play) the referee will incur penalties to each fencer per Appendix 1. Total non-combat will result in a black card and disqualification to one or both fencers.

50.0 Intentional non-combat from one opponent

After 1 minute of any competition a fencer demonstrates his or her refusal to engage the opponent the referee will immediately call, "Halt" then issue a yellow card to the fencer. The referee will then ask if the fencer is in need of medical attention. If the fencer is not injured and during the remainder of the duel the fencer continues at any time to refuse engagement with his or her opponent the referee will once again call, "Halt" and issue a second Yellow card and a verbal warning that a Black card and disqualification will be the immediate next course of action per Appendix 1.

50.1 The DFA will simply annul any duel which it deems intentionally compromised by a fencer(s)

51.0 Intentionally refusing to fence at full potential

Fencers are expected to compete to their full potential. If a fencer or fencers deliberately refuse not to fence at his or her full potential the referee will incur penalties per Appendix 1.

52.0 Completion of duel

Immediately following a duel the fencers will salute to their opponent, the referee and the spectators. Failure to follow these rules will result in penalties exhibited in Appendix 1. The referee will tally the scores (minus infractions) and consult with the Judge(s) for the total points for each fencer. Both fencers are expected to await the decision in a standing position holding both weapons until the winner is announced.

Note: Failure to salute could provide the opposing fencer with another touch and consequently result in a tie score.

52.1 No one is permitted into the piste until both fencers are taken back to the assembly area for final inspection.

53.0 Post equipment handling after a duel

All fencers must have their equipment immediately inspected after the duel. Under no exceptions will a fencer be permitted to leave the piste in possession of equipment at any time. Leaving the piste with any equipment will be penalized per Appendix 1.

Note: An infraction of the rule could provide the opposing fencer with another touch and consequently result in a tie score.

53.1 Immediately after the event the fencers will surrender their weapons to the referee who will place them in the appropriate colored section of the Armory.

53.2 The referee will immediately guide the fencers back to the assembly area with the Armory. The scoring equipment will be retrieved and a final inspection conducted for all weapons and equipment. If any non-conforming or illegal equipment is found the fencer(s) will be penalized per Appendix 1.

Note: An infraction could disqualify a fencer(s) or provide the opposing fencer with another touch and consequently result in a tie score.

53.3 After final inspection the fencers must sign the official score sheet. If a fencer refuses to sign the score sheet he or she will forfeit the match and lose any standing in rank attained from the event.

53.4 After signing the score sheet the fencers may collect their weapons & equipment and proceed back to the piste unattended for closing ceremonies.

54.0 Penalty structure

There are three degrees of severity applied in Appendix 1. If a referee must penalize a fencer who has committed several faults at the same time, the referee will penalize the less serious fault first. The penalties are cumulative and valid for the duel with the exception of an expulsion or forfeit (Black Card).

55.0 Penalty types

During the duel, only touches scored in circumstances connected with the offences may be annulled. All warnings (Yellow Cards), penalty touches (Red Cards) and expulsions (Black Cards) must be noted on the official score sheet together with the penalty for which they belong. Penalties are initiated as follows:

- 55.1 A warning, indicated by a Yellow Card with which the referee identifies the fencer at fault. The fencer then knows that any further offence on their part will result with another Yellow Card or a penalty touch.
- 55.2 A penalty touch, indicated by a Red Card with which the referee identifies the fencer at fault. A touch is added to the score of the opponent and may, if the last touch is at stake, lead to the loss of the duel.
- 55.3 Furthermore, a Red Card can only be followed by another Red Card or by a Black Card, depending on the nature of the offence.
- 55.4 A Black Card for which the referee identifies the penalty as severe which can lead to forfeit of the duel. Black cards are kept on the fencer's record permanently and excessive repeat offenders can be suspended either temporarily or permanently from competitions.
- 55.5 Expulsion, from the competition venue: any person disturbing order of the competition during an event.

56.0 Authorities and their competence

The following authority will be required at DFA competition venues. They do not exclude any auxiliary personnel that may be present during an event.

- 56.1 At least one member of the DFC (Dagger Fencing Committee)
- 56.2 A referee
- 56.3 At least one judge
- 56.4 Chairman of the DFA (for National and World Cup events)
- 56.5 Security personnel responsible for state and local jurisdiction
- 56.6 Auxiliary personnel (technicians, score & time keepers, etc.) as required

57.0 DFC

The Dagger Fencing Committee is the judicial authority composed of the referee, judges and the DFA Chairman to review the decisions and appeals made against all rulings. The DFC has jurisdiction over all the fencers who take part in or are present at a competition which the DFA is officially sponsoring. When necessary the Dagger Fencing Committee can intervene on its own initiative and impose or overrule penalties which are applicable during all competitions and events. The DFC has the supreme power to:

- 57.1 Censure
- 57.2 Fine
- 57.3 Impose temporary suspension
- 57.4 Impose permanent suspension
- 57.5 Necessitate other infractions deemed necessary by the DFC

58.0 Referee responsibility

The referee is responsible for the direction of the duel, judging of touches, checking of equipment and maintenance of order in the piste. The referee can penalize by refusing to award a touch, grant a penalty touch, exclude disqualify or suspend with or without prior warning, fencers from a competition. In these circumstances, if the referee has judged on a matter of fact, the decision(s) are irrevocable. The referee can also propose the expulsion from the competition any spectators, trainers, instructors and or other persons who interfere in any way with the event.

59.0 Judges responsibility

The judges are official members of the DFC who assist with the maintenance of order and discipline while providing unbiased judgment during events. Judges review penalties when necessary and have the power to override the referee by majority vote or with factual evidence from the IR (Instant Replay). When a decision cannot be resolved the penalty will be dismissed. Judges will review any appeals against the decision(s) of the referee and will communicate their final decision to the fencers & managers in an expedient manner.

60.0 DFC Chairman

The Chairman is perpetually responsible for making unbiased decisions while providing for the safety and welfare of all DFC members, fencers, volunteers and spectators. All actions decided upon by the Chairman are considered final. Anyone who repeatedly challenges the Dagger Fencing Committee and or the Chairman will be subject to temporary suspension and or permanent expulsion from DFA events.

61.0 Security & medical personnel

Security will be provided to maintain order and discipline while ensuring the event is conducted with minimal interference. Security personnel will evict anyone who does not act in a civil manner or does not conduct themselves properly. Medical technicians will be present at events to attend with health issues when required.

62.0 Auxiliary personnel

The DFC will appoint individual(s) to keep track of the score, time and proper working order of the associated equipment. If an anomaly is found during the course of a duel the referee will be notified immediately and stop the duel to check and or replace defective equipment. No auxiliary personnel shall for any reason disrupt a duel unless they have due cause. This could be, but is not limited to, inspecting faulty scoring equipment after a dubious point or unregistered touch, re-setting the time clock, testing equipment for malfunctions, etc.

63.1 A timekeeper will be responsible for monitoring the duration of the event while adding and or subtracting time to the official clock when instructed by the referee during a duel.

63.2 A scorekeeper will record the number of touches, penalties and other required information during a duel.

63.3 Technicians will be on hand to inspect the working order of all fencing and scoring equipment during a duel. This includes but is not limited to repairing the piste, inspecting weapons & body cords in the assembly area, checking the time clock for accuracy, testing the scoring apparatus and servicing all other technical equipment as required.

Note: One person may perform more than one job if they are properly trained.

63.0 Fencer exclusion, disqualification or expulsion

A competitor who, while fencing, commits certain violent or vindictive actions against the opponent or referee, or who does not fence to the utmost ability, or who commits any other infractions imposed by the DFA may be excluded from the event and possibly future competitions depending on the severity of the offence(s). Disqualification of a fencer during a duel because they did not conform to the rules does not necessarily incur their suspension or permanent suspension to the entire competition if they acted in good faith. However, a competitor who is officially disqualified from the competition by the DFC may not continue to take part in further duels during the competition, even if they already qualified for promotion to the next round of direct elimination duels.

64.0 Right to appeal during a duel

When the judicial authority makes a decision for or against a fencer(s) this decision may be subject to an appeal by requesting an official "Time Out" by the fencer(s) and or manager(s). The appeal against a decision only suspends that decision when it can be judged immediately on instant replay when available. Any protest that demonstrates a direct disregard to the decision(s) of any referee or judge during an event will result in penalties per Appendix 1.

65.0 Expulsion from an event

Anyone present at a DFA event can be expelled at any time. Such expulsion has the effect of forbidding that person(s) access to the venue for the duration of the event or permanent expulsion from any future events. Appeals must be made to the Chairmen of the DFC within 30 days after the expulsion occurred.

66.0 Dagger fencing disciplinary procedure

- 66.1 The various penalties are imposed by competent authority and the severity of the offence will depend on how the infringement of the rules was committed.
- 66.2 No protest and or appeal can be made against a ruling based upon factual evidence. If the referee maintains his or her opinion, the DFC will decide on a ruling. If the referee is found to be correct in the decision and the appeal is deemed to be unjustified, the fencer(s) who registered the appeal will be penalized per Appendix 1.
- 66.3 When a referee is ignorant of or misunderstands a definite rule, or applies it in a manner contrary to the rules, an appeal must be made immediately to the Judge(s) and or other representatives of the DFC for review.
- 66.4 The fencer will not be penalized until an enquiry has been held to review the occurrence. Once the DFC has made their final decision, within a reasonable interval of time, the penalty may be imposed or annulled.
- 66.5 In the case where a decision cannot be decided upon the penalty will be annulled.
- 66.6 Any fencer who repeatedly is penalized for an offence of the third degree may be subject to disqualification and or suspension from future DFA competitions.
- 66.7 The fencer will have 48 hours after the disqualification or suspension to appeal online and a ruling will be made by the DFC within 30 days. If the appeal is denied the DFC may suspend or permanently ban the fencer from future DFA competitions.

67.0 Zero tolerance policy for drugs

Any fencer or member of the DFA will be required to undergo a drug or alcohol test at any time. Any refusal to be tested will be considered a plea of guilty to such an offence. Any fencer or member of the DFA that is proved to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol while present at an event will be suspended and must appeal for re-instatement.

68.0 Registration for combat

DFA events will be posted online at least 30 days in advance before the competition. DFA members must complete the online application for each event. Note: Entries received after the deadline will not be accepted.

- 68.1 Only fencers who register online before midnight of the official expiration time & date are eligible to participate in Dagger Fencing Competitions. The official online registration form must be printed and presented to the DFC at least one hour before a duel to guarantee participant confirmation. Failure to do so may result in disqualification from the competition per Appendix 1.
- 68.2 Fencers in good standing may represent a country in events if they are citizens of the country for at least one year from date of registration with the DFA.

68.3 Fencers will be denied entry to an event if they have not paid their dues, were suspended during a competition or for other pertinent reasons specified by the DFC. Petitions for entry must be made to the DFC Chairman before the deadline posted for the event.

69.0 Open competition & statistics

Fencers who register and pay their entry fees on time will be allowed to compete in any Open DFA Competitions to obtain points and standing. The fencer's statistics are recorded on the DFA website under his or her country of registration. A fencer's world rank (for the year and lifetime) is based upon the following statistics:

- 69.1 The total number of duels won for the year and lifetime
- 69.2 The total number of duels lost for the year and lifetime
- 69.3 Overall number of scored touches for the year and lifetime
- 69.4 Overall number of touches allowed for the year and lifetime
- 69.5 The total number of duels completed for the year and lifetime
- 69.6 The total number of black cards received for the year and lifetime

Statistical data will be revised and updated as required on the daggerfencing.com website.

70.0 National competitions

All fencers must complete a series of qualifying duels to seed each individual for National DFA Competitions. The results of each duel and the scheduling of elimination duels will be posted on the official DFA website for each perspective country. Only the top ranked 32 fencers from each country will be invited to compete in Nationals and only 8 fencers will proceed to the Semi-Finals of the World Cup.

- 70.1 No fencer may compete for more than one country at any time. All Fencers must reside in a country for a period of one full year; no exceptions. The fencer may compete under their previous country of residence until the one year has expired. The time starts immediately after the DFA is notified of the change or residence.
- 70.2 Fencers who reside in a country that does not have official DFA competitions may compete in countries that sponsor DFA events. The fencer must choose a specific country to compete in for elimination duels at least 6 months in advance.

71.0 World Cup competition

The top 8 National Champions will be invited to participate in World Cup semi-finals. The DFA will schedule the elimination duels in select countries world wide until only 4 fencers remain. The final 4 will then participate in the last elimination round of the World Cup Competition.

APPENDIX 1

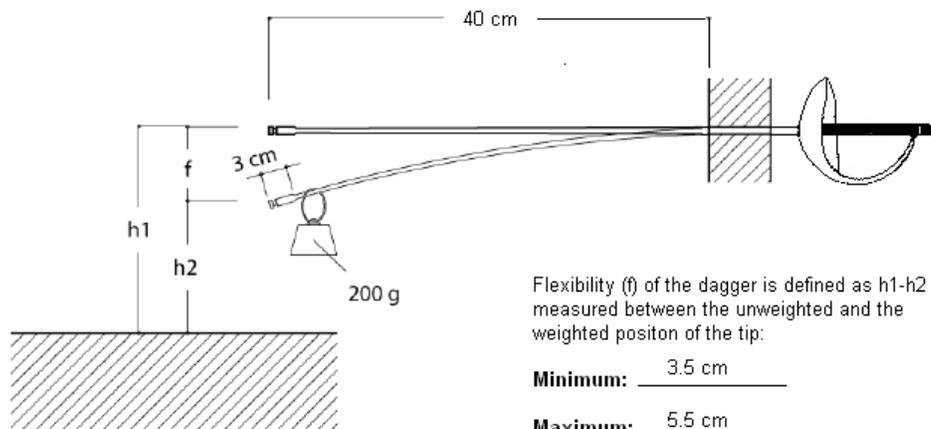
PENALTIES

Article	Description of Offence	Severity of Offence			
		1st	2nd	3rd & Additional	4th
4.0	Improper use of weapon	Y	R	R	
7.0	Illegal entry and leaving the piste				B
8.0	Intentional corps à corps or stepping off piste	Y	Y	R	
10.0	Use of weapons to block or bind the opponent's body	Y	R	R	
11.0	Tampering with scoring device		R	R	B
13.0	Crossing the limits of the piste	Y	Y	R	
17.0	Injuries or withdrawal of a competitor			R	B
24.0	Equipment not to DFA specifications	Y	R	R	
28.3	Improper curve of blade	Y	R	R	
28.5	Non-conforming or fraudulent equipment				B
29.3	Fencer identification & classification				B
31.0	Weapon contact on piste	Y	R	R	
32.0	Targeting unprotected portion of mask		R	R	B
34.0	Physical contact corps à corps	Y	R	R	B
34.1	Intentional brutality		R	R	B
37.0	Touch on invalid surface		R	R	
43.0	Illegal electronic devices				B
47.0	Fencing etiquette		R	R	B
49.0	Non-combat from both participants		Y	Y	B
50.0	Non-combat from one opponent		Y	Y	B
51.0	Intentionally refusing to fence at full potential		Y	R	B
52.0	Failure to salute at the completion of bout			R	
53.0	Leaving piste with scoring equipment				B
64.0	Disregard or protest of a decision from the DFA			R	B
66.2	Protest to factual evidence			R	B
67.0	Refusal of drug or alcohol testing				B
68.0	Failure to register 1 hour before combat				B
	LEGEND				
	Yellow card (Y) indicates a warning				
	Red card (R) indicates a penalty touch				
	Black card (B) indicates disqualification				

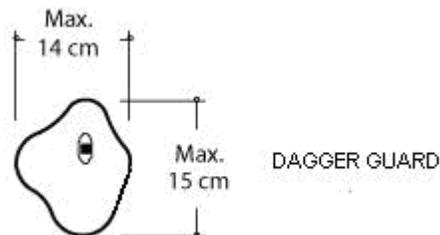
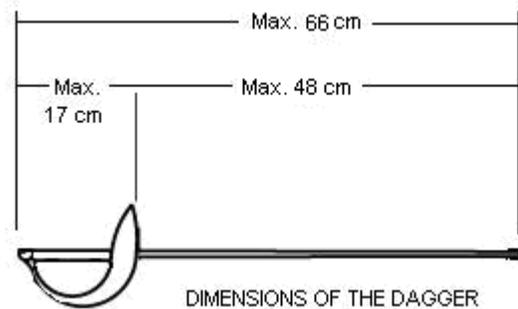
APPENDIX 2

WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT CHECK SPECIFICATIONS

- 1.0** Before each duel the referee will collect from each fencer 2 sets of épée and dagger for weapons inspection. The referee will check under the pad, the insulation of the wires inside the guard and the pressure of the spring in the point and total travel and the residual travel of the pointe d'arrêt to ensure all weapons conform to DFA standards. Checking under the pad, the insulation of the wires and the pressure of the spring will be repeated at any if required.
- 2.0** The referee will check the total travel of all weapons by inserting a gauge measuring 1.5 mm between the barrel of the pointe d'arrêt and the tip. This gauge, provided by the DFC, will have a tolerance of ± 0.05 mm, i.e. from 1.45 mm to 1.55 mm. The referee will then check the residual travel by inserting a gauge measuring 0.5 mm between the barrel of the pointe d'arrêt and the tip. The apparatus should not register when the point is depressed. This gauge, provided by the DFC, will have a tolerance of ± 0.05 mm, i.e. from 0.45 mm to 0.55 mm.
- 3.0** The épée weapons must conform to the regulations set forth in the FIE and USFA and the dagger must conform to DFA specifications set forth herein. The weapons will be constructed in a way that (through normal use) cannot injure the person wielding the weapons or their opponents.
- 3.1 For complete information regarding épée specifications refer to the current FIE and USFA rules and regulations.
- 4.0** Any alteration to either the épée or the dagger weapon from the official rules and regulations is strictly forbidden.
- 5.0 Dagger specifications:**



Test Weight: The weight is 200 grams with a tolerance of ± 3 grams.



The dagger has two electric wires, glued in a groove in the blade, which connect the point with two of the three sockets situated inside the guard and which form the active circuit of the dagger. The body of the dagger is connected to the third socket. The dagger utilizes a standard épée barrel with tip, 3 prong épée type plug, saber type guard, saber type handle, nut and official stamped DFA dagger blade.

- 5.1 The total weight of the dagger ready for use in competitions will be less than 300 grams.
- 5.2 The total maximum length of the dagger for use in competitions is 66 centimeters
- 5.3 The blade will conform to the dimensions set forth by the DFC. Only blades manufactured and tested to DFA specifications will be allowed for competition.
- 5.4 **NOTE:** The dagger barrel and tip must conform to standard FIE and USFA specifications for épée.
- 5.5 **NOTE:** The dagger guard must conform to standard FIE and USFA specifications for saber.

6.0 “Y” style body cord

The “Y” style body cord must have the official DFA connector for scoring equipment and two standard 3 prong épée plugs for each weapon. All standard electrical testing will be completed per standard FIE and USFA specifications for épée style body cords from all 3 of the “Y” style body cord connections.

7.0 Mask & protective clothing:

The fencers must present to the referee a mask, jacket, pants, knickers and protective clothing that is FIE approved. The protective equipment must be in good, like new condition without rips or tears in the clothing. The mask must be inspected in accordance with the FIE and USFA rules and regulations. No one will be permitted to fence with questionable equipment and it is advised that all fencers have their equipment inspected at regular intervals to avoid being disqualified from participating in DFA events.

8.0 Embellishments:

DFA fencers are allowed to add patches, logos and other items to his or her uniforms must all such items must be approved by the referee before the event. No items may be loose fitting or fragile in such a way as to be detached by the opponents blade during a duel.

APPENDIX 3

DFA RULE BOOK REVISIONS

REVISION #	DATE	DESCRIPTION
Rev. 0	4/1/12	New Release