



IFHEMA CUP 2025

COMPETITION FORMAT DOCUMENT

ORGANIZOR: IFHEMA & HFHEMA

LOCATION : Athens, Greece. Sports Hall Notou, Aghia Paraskevi

DATE : September 6th, 2025

WEAPON: Longsword

FORMAT: National Teams, Mixed

I. TEAMS

Participant Teams will be consisted of **5** individuals: **3 active** and **1 substitute, 1 judge**.

Each team should be of mixed gender and the **majority** gender should not exceed the 70% of the **fencing team** including the substitute. The genre of the judge can be any.

Gender (M,F,X) is defined by the official document (ID or passport) provided by the government of each country.

It is **mandatory** that the **minority** gender will be included in the active team of 3 and **not** as substitute.

The minority gender can be substituted during the game **only** in cases of injury or sickness.

Substitution during each game, irrelevant of sickness or injury, can be done **only one** time and the substitute is obliged to finish the remaining bouts of the game.

Every team should have a **captain** which will be responsible for the substitutions and for the order of the fencers (who will fence first, who second etc) for each round. The order of the fencers will be delivered to the secretary of the event and to the judges before the beginning of each round.

It is also **mandatory** for every team to provide 1 judge to the tournament.

II. GAME FORMAT

Every game will be completed in 9 bouts of 5 points or 3 minutes, meaning that the game will finish until one team reaches 45 points or the time limit exceeds.

Fencers will change when a team reaches first 5 points, then 10, then 15, then 20, then 25, 30, then 35, then 40. Every point is added to the previous result until they reach the sum of 45 points or run out of time.

Each bout will have a time limit of **3 minutes**. If the fencers do not reach the targeted amount of points within the **3 minutes** then the bout ends, the fencers change and the score remains as far as it has been and the whole procedure continues until **ALL 9 bouts** have been completed and the game ends with any score that has been reached up to there.

So every fencer of one team has played with every other fencer of the opposing team.

Time will stop only on situations when the 2 judges have a disagreement on which fencer will get the point and they need time to talk and decide.

Fencers have the right to object **ONCE** at each bout and have the judges discuss their ruling.

III. COMPETITION FORMAT

1) FIRST ROUND:

- All teams are divided in 2 different pools. Every pool consists of 2 fighting rings.
- In each pool everyone is playing against each other (the "People fight people"-principle).
- After all games of the **FIRST ROUND** are finished, all teams are ranked accordingly.
- The ranking criteria are: a) wins b) total points of hits against the opponent c) total of points of hits received from the opponent. Ex aequo's are decided on the basis of the number of clean hits and the number of doubles. More clean hits: one place up; more doubles: one place down.
- 20-30% (depending on the total number of participant teams) of the team (s) which has the lowest ranking is excluded from the next **PRELIMINARY** round and is competing again in the **FINALS** round for the last places of the final ranking of the whole tournament

2) PRELIMINARY ROUND

- All teams are divided in 2 different pools. Every pool is consisted of 2 fighting rings.
- POOL 1: includes the first 3 higher ranked teams from **POOL 1-FIRST ROUND** and the first 3 higher ranked teams from **POOL 2-FIRST ROUND** , forming a POOL of **6 teams**
- POOL 2: the remaining teams of POOL 1-FIRST ROUND and POOL 2-FIRST ROUND. In the case that their number is uneven, the lowest ranked team between them proceeds

FINAL

immediately to the **FINALS** round to compete against the team (s) who were eliminated from the **FIRST ROUND** for the last places of the final ranking of the whole tournament

-In this round teams **DO NOT** play with everyone. They play one (1) game according to the ranking between them which they got from the **FIRST ROUND** : the ranked 1st play against the ranked 6th, the ranked 2nd plays against the ranked 5th etc

-After all games of the **PRELIMINARY** are finished, all teams are ranked accordingly.

-The ranking criteria are: a) wins b) total points of hits against the opponent c) total of points of hits received from the opponent

-In the case of a **TIE** between two teams in **ALL 3** ranking criteria, *which is a very rare case*, then each team chooses a CHAMPION and they play one (1) bout of 5 points or 3 minutes. The winner team is adds the results of the bout into the ranking criteria

3) FINALS ROUND

-All teams are divided in 2 different pools. Every pool is consisted of 2 fighting rings.

-POOL 1: includes the first 3 **winner** teams from **POOL 1-PRELIMINARY ROUND** **plus** the **Higher ranked** team amongst the **winner**s of the **POOL 2-PRELIMINARY ROUND** , forming a **POOL of 4 teams** . In this pool they play one (1) game according to the ranking between them which they got from the **PRELIMINARY ROUND** : the ranked 1st play against the ranked 4th, the ranked 2nd plays against the ranked 3th. From this pool after their first game they compete for places 1st to 4th

-POOL 2 : includes the loser teams (meaning 3 teams) of POOL 1-PRELIMINARY ROUND , the remaining teams of POOL 2-PRELIMINARY ROUND and the team (s) who have been excluded from the **FIRST ROUND** and the **PRELIMINARY ROUND** due to lowest ranking. In the case that their number is uneven, the lowest ranked team between them automatically gets the last place in the tournament and the remaining ones compete in pairs according to their ranking for the tournament places 5th and downwards.

IV. JUDGES

There will be two (2) judges for each ring in the whole phase of the tournament.

One (1) of them will have the referee role too.

A competition table for each ring will take track of points and time.

In the finals (places 1-4) we have the option to add another judge handling the duties of the referee only.

Judges in principle are non-competing. It is forbidden for a judge to participate in a game where his/her own country team is competing.

V. RULESET

It will be provided by IFHEMA in an appropriate timeframe so fencers and appointed judges can practice with it in their own countries. The aim of the Federation is that it will be simple for everyone but effective. Check the IFHEMA website.

Contact: George Zacharopoulos: gzarma@gmail.com