



Statutes

Rules and Regulations

2010

INTERNATIONAL FENCING ACADEMY

WORLD ASSOCIATION OF NATIONAL FENCING ACADEMIES

PREAMBLE

The National Fencing Academies, meeting in Congress on the 21st and 22nd April 1962 in Basle (following a provisional committee created in 1958 and a desire for a Union of the body of masters expressed on the 17th August 1930 at Antwerp), decided to constitute a world organisation bringing together all the National Associations and to give it statutes.

N.B. For all the following statutes, the word “Master” signifies a Diploma Master of an affiliated National Fencing Academy.’

STATUTES

FORM - NAME - HEADQUARTERS - OBJECT

Article 1. Form

An International Association is formed between those adhering to the present statutes conforming to the current laws and texts which govern the teaching of fencing and physical education.

The official languages are French and English.

The national languages of the different academies are, nevertheless, permitted.

Article 2. NAME

This Association takes the name of “**Académie d'Armes Internationale**”.

It has a coat of arms.

Article 3. HEADQUARTERS

The headquarters of the organisation is established as the home of the President.

In the case of a vacancy for President, it can be transferred at any time to some other place by decision of the executive committee.

Article 4. DURATION

The lifetime of the International Fencing Academy is perpetual.

Article 5. OBJECT

The International Fencing Academy has as its goal:

ACADEMIE D'ARMES INTERNATIONALE

1* to bring together all the existing National Fencing Academies throughout the world and to encourage Diploma Masters to constitute National Fencing Academies when these do not exist in the countries where they practise;

2* to ensure and maintain constant fraternal relations between National Fencing Academies;

3* to represent its members throughout the world with public or private authorities or any other organisation.

4* to contribute to the principles, rules, techniques and methods of fencing development in all its forms:

5 * to ensure the distribution of all documents relating to fencing;

6* to promote the technical and educational training of its members by all means, particularly:

- the organisation of courses
- the publication of an International journal
- the development of programmes for examinations together with the composition of the panel of judges responsible for examining the candidates
- the issuing of the Title of Master of the International Fencing Academy
 - either by the equivalence of Diplomas
 - or by the outcome of examinations in competence in the teaching of fencing supervised by a panel of judges designated by the International Fencing Academy (A.A.I.)
- the organisation of tournaments : cups or Masters World championships
- the organisation of congresses or the organisation of events relating to fencing.

Article 6. STATUS OF MEMBERS

The International Fencing Academy is composed of:

- - all affiliated National Academies
- - all affiliated Escrime Artistique National Academies
- - honorary members
- - benefactor members
- - those awarded honorary memberships

A. Full members:

Full members must be:

either qualified by the state where there is no National Academy
or qualified by the National Fencing Academy
or qualified by the International Fencing Academy

B. Honorary members

When proposed by the executive committee of the International Fencing Academy, the title of "Honorary Member" can be awarded by Congress to people who have rendered eminent service to the cause of fencing or the mastery of arms.

C. Benefactor Members

The International Fencing Academy may admit to the title of benefactor member individuals or institutions that, by their prestige or patronage, do credit to the cause of fencing or the International Fencing Academy

D. Members of honour

When proposed by the executive committee, the title of Honorary Master may be bestowed by the congress to persons whose prestige and influence contribute to serve the cause of the International Fencing Academy.

E. Single weapon Masters

Titled Maître d'Arme Fleuret/Epee/Sabre

F. National Academies may enroll Prevots and Moniteurs

Only Masters may represent Academies at Congress.

Article 7. EXPULSION - LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP STATUS

Membership status, as defined in the subsequent paragraphs, is lost by:

- resignation (notified in writing)
- expulsion for non payment of annual subscription
- temporary suspension passed by the disciplinary Commission in case of serious breach of the statutory and regulatory arrangements governing the International Fencing Academy as well as by any action causing material or moral damage to the International Fencing Academy.

Article 8. Disciplinary Commission

The decisions (warning - official warning - temporary suspension and expulsions) will be taken by a Disciplinary Commission, composing:

- The President of the International Fencing Academy
- four members of the executive committee elected by secret ballot.

The sanctions passed will be subject to appeal (deadline:three months, form: registered letter) before the congress, which will give a final ruling.

Article 9. ADMINISTRATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FENCING ACADEMY

The International Fencing Academy is administered by an executive committee and by a board.

The executive committee comprises the President and four Vice Presidents.

The President of the International Fencing Academy and four members of the executive committee are elected by ordinary congress (every four years). They shall be, if possible, of differing nationalities.

Two members of the executive committee fill the posts of General Secretary and Treasurer. With the President they constitute the Board.

In the case of death, resignation or vacancy of the President, the General Secretary carries out the duties of the President in the interim until the next congress.

Past Presidents of the International Fencing Academy may attend meetings of the executive committee, by right, in an advisory capacity.

Elections for the President of the International Fencing Academy and the four other members of the executive committee are by secret ballot.

All nominations for candidature for the election of the President must be notified to the Board of the International Fencing Academy three months before the congress.

If, after the first round of elections there is not an absolute majority for the election of the President, there will be a second round. A simple majority will be sufficient to be elected "President".

In the case of relative majority equality, extra rounds must be considered.

Candidates for the duty of President are proposed by National Academies (One candidate only per National Academy).

Only Masters may be candidates for the various executive posts of the International Fencing Academy.

After the election of the President, National Academies may submit candidates for the four members making up the executive committee.

The four candidates who have obtained the highest numbers of votes are elected. In the case of equality between several candidates, it will be necessary to proceed to one or more additional rounds of votes in order to obtain the four elected members. They will bear the title "Vice-President" and will have the responsibility for a Commission, nominated by the President.

The executive committee of the International Fencing Academy is elected for four years. All members are eligible for re-election by the congress at the expiry of their term of office.

In the case of death, resignation or vacancy of a Member of the executive committee, the next congress will elect a new member whose mandate will terminate at the date of the replacement

of the said committee.

Article 10. MEETING - DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The executive committee of the International Fencing Academy meets in plenary session at least once per year. Its decisions are taken by simple majority, with the President having the casting vote in the case of equality.

In the case of absence from the meetings of the executive committee a postal vote on items on the agenda is permitted. However, voting by proxy is not allowed.

The Minutes of the meeting are signed by the President and the General Secretary.

They are transcribed without blanks or deletions in a numbered and initialled record.

Article 11. REMIT OF THE BOARD

The President, assisted by the General Secretary and the Treasurer, directs and administers the International Fencing Academy in the name of the executive committee. He deals with day to day problems and has them ratified by the executive committee.

The Board decides the use of available funds, draws up the annual budget, organises expenditure and recovery of moneys under the responsibility of the executive committee.

The Board presents a report to each executive committee. This report is submitted to discussion and approval. The same applies to the spiritual and financial reports presented during congress.

The President represents the International Fencing Academy in law, whether as plaintiff or defendant, and without having to justify, to any third party, any other power of representation than that conferred by this present article of the statutes.

Article 12. REMIT OF THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

The President chairs meetings and represents the International Fencing Academy with public and private administrations.

He may be accompanied in his approaches by a member of the Board or any other competent person he may regard as useful.

The General Secretary:

- drafts the Minutes sets up meetings of the executive committee and congress
- calls participants to the various meetings
- establishes the Agenda, in agreement with the Board where it concerns the executive committee and in agreement with the executive committee where it concerns congress
- replies to administrative correspondence.

If there is an administrative staff, it is placed under his supervision. He distributes its

responsibilities.

The general Treasurer:

- is responsible for all financial operations
- is responsible for all funds which are remitted to him
- gives account of the financial situation at every meeting of the executive committee and to the congress.

He can carry out any movement of funds after having had the approval of the President and the executive committee.

He proposes any action or means to collect funds.

Article 13. REMIT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENTS

These are the elected members of the executive committee.

They are responsible for the management of the International Fencing Academy

They are charged to divide the four Commissions between them whether temporarily or permanently.

Article 14. AUDIT COMMISSION

This audit commission is made up of two members.

It examines the finances of the International Fencing Academy and presents a report on its financial management to congress. These checks will be carried out at the venue of the congress before it opens.

The members of the Commission are elected by the congress at the same time as the executive committee. They shall be of a different nationality to that of the Board members.

Outgoing members are eligible for re-election.

Article 15. COMPOSITION OF CONGRESS

All full members of the National Fencing Academies may attend the congress. Only the President or the duly mandated representative of his National Fencing Academy takes part in the decision making according to the following voting scale:

- from 1 to 20 members = one vote
- from 21 to 40 members = two votes
- from 41 to 60 members = three votes
- from 61 to 100 members four votes
- more than 100 members = five votes.

National Fencing Academies which are not affiliated or not having met their financial

obligations without interruption may not be represented at the congress.

National Fencing Academies which are absent from the congress may not be represented by the President or delegate of another National Fencing Academy.

Article 16. MEETINGS - CALLING NOTICES

CONGRESS

Meets every two years.

Calling notices are sent out thirty days before the date of the meeting by circular giving the Agenda and the items for discussion.

The President and the General Secretary are by full right Chairman and Secretary of the congress. They may, if need be, take on two assistants.

All full members of the International Fencing Academy may be present at the deliberations of the congress on presentation of his membership card proving his status and the payment of his subscription.

Only the President or the delegate of the represented National Fencing Academy has voting rights.

The Agenda of the congress is fixed by the previous executive committee.

No business may figure on the Agenda unless it has been communicated to the Board at least three months before the congress.

The Board of the congress is that of the International Fencing Academy.

It submits all proposals and resolutions to congress. Congress may modify the Statutes.

The congress hears the President's and Treasurer's reports of the executive committee. They are submitted to discussion and approval.

Congress votes on the rates of affiliation and subscription submitted by the executive committee.

The annual report and accounts, as well as the Minutes of congress are sent out, every year, to the Presidents of the National Fencing Academies.

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

The congress meets for an extraordinary session whenever the interests of the International Fencing Academy demand it, or at the request of the executive committee or at the request of a quarter of the duly affiliated National Fencing Academies.

ACADEMIE D'ARMES INTERNATIONALE

Only an extraordinary general meeting can dissolve the International Fencing Academy and the allocation of its capital. In such case the presence at the congress of two thirds of the affiliated National Academies will be required and the decision will be carried by a two thirds majority vote. If a quorum of attendance is not reached, a second extraordinary congress will be called within three months. At this second assembly, the decision will be validly accepted by a two thirds majority of those National Academies present, whatever their number.

Article 17. POWERS AND REMIT OF CONGRESS

Congress is the sovereign organ of the International Fencing Academy.

When validly called and constituted, congress takes decisions which can be imposed on all members.

Members of the executive committee are responsible to congress.

Congress rules on the reports of the executive committee and directs the actions of the International Fencing Academy and gives general directives to the executive committee

QUORUM AND VOTE

Decisions of congress are taken by the majority of the voters present (see scale Article **15.**) except in respect of the dissolution of the International Fencing Academy and the allocation of its capital.

Voting is by secret ballot.

Article 18. RESOURCES OF THE INTERNATIONAL FENCING ACADEMY

Its resources are composed of:

- - affiliations of National Fencing Academies
- - member's subscriptions
- - subsidies received
- - receipts of any nature resulting from organisation, festivals, conferences, galas, congress, publications, etc.
- - revenue from its assets
- - any gifts and bequests which are made to it.

Article 19 ACCOUNTS

A day to day "income and expenditure" account is kept.

The general Treasurer gives a report. on the accounts at every meeting of the executive committee.

The balance sheet is closed every year, submitted to the executive committee, checked by the audit commissioners, and presented by the Treasurer for discussion and approval by congress.

Article 20. DISSOLUTION AND LIQUIDATION

The International Fencing Academy may be dissolved when proposed of the executive committee by congress in extraordinary session.

The decision must be voted according to the rules of quorum of presence and majority provide for in Article 16, last paragraph. In case of voluntary or forced dissolution, the extraordinary congress will decide, without appeal, after settlement of liabilities, the use or distribution of the net assets as well as the property of the International Fencing Academy.

The Board in office will be put in charge of carrying out the liquidation in accordance with the decisions of the extraordinary congress with the most extensive powers, to pay the liabilities, realise the assets, and allocate the property according to the decision of the extraordinary congress and under its control.

Article 21. RULES AND REGULATIONS

A set of rules and regulations established by the executive committee, intended to fix the details of the application of these present statutes, will be submitted to congress at the same time as the latter.

The executive committee is authorized to modify all the measures in the present rules and regulations, to add to them new measures and to remove from them existing measures in the interest of the smooth functioning of the International Fencing Academy.

All modifications are the subject of a report to congress.

Drawn up at LIÈGE, on 18th April 1990

Amended May 2004

Amended August 2006

Amended September 2008

World association of National Fencing Academies
Rules and Regulations

The Association takes as its usual title the name of "International Fencing Academy" (A.A.I.)

The International Fencing Academy is governed by statutes supplemented by the present rules and regulations.

COMPOSITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FENCING ACADEMY:

The National Fencing Academies make up the International Fencing Academy.

The National Fencing Academies are groups governed by statutes and directed by an executive committee.

Full Members are Master, Provost, Teacher - holders of a diploma recognised by their National Fencing Academies.

Honorary Members are individuals whose approval is endorsed by congress, when proposed by the executive committee.

Benefactor Members are individuals or institutions that, by their prestige or patronage, have done credit to the cause of mastery of arms, whose approval is endorsed by congress, when proposed by the executive committee.

Members of honour are individuals who by their prestige and influence have contributed to serve the cause of the mastery of arms, whose approval is endorsed by congress, when proposed by the executive committee.

Members belonging to the A.A.I. may not, in any circumstance, represent more than one National Academy.

AFFILIATION:

The demand will be given to the A.A.I. General Secretary who will inform the whole N.A. members by asking them their approval. The final decision will be taken by the Director Committee and ratified by the next Assembly.

RENEWAL OF AFFILIATION:

Every year before the end of March.

AFFILIATION FEE:

This is fixed by congress as proposed by the executive committee.

SUBSCRIPTION:

Full, honorary, benefactor members and members of honour contribute to the running of the A.A.I.

The amount for full members is fixed every two years by congress as proposed by the executive committee.

Benefactor members make a contribution of their own choice. It is annual.

Honorary members and members of honour are exempt from subscriptions.

A.A.I. LICENCE

This is issued to all members as soon as their National Fencing Academy has satisfied the admini-

strative rules of affiliation and subscription.

Every year, after renewal of affiliation and subscription a stamp will be given which certifies membership of the A.A.I.

VALIDITY OF THE MEMBERSHIP CARD:

The A.A.I. membership card is valid from April 1st. until the following 31st

All changes in the administrative location must be notified.

TRANSFERS:

The A.A.I. membership card is valid for all National Fencing Academies.

In case of transfer, the person concerned will request membership of his new Academy. In order to do this he must have the favourable recommendation of his former Academy. He will notify the International Fencing Academy of his change of work place and his change of address.

In case of dispute the executive committee of the International Fencing Academy will decide without appeal.

STATUS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Candidates in the various elections (President, executive committee) must be Masters recognised by the A.A.I. and up to date with their annual subscriptions.

COMMISSIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL FENCING ACADEMY:

The executive committee institutes permanent or temporary commissions.

The Vice-President responsible for a Commission gathers any number of assistants necessary for the successful conclusion of the task allotted to him.

The President of the A.A.I. or his representative are members by right.

FUNCTIONING:

Commissions function under the control of the Board.

- The coordination of the deliberations is carried out by the General Secretary.
- The deliberations are submitted to the executive committee for decisions and, in certain cases, for the approval of congress.

Amended May 2004