

My weapon doesn't work!

Having equipment that works for all of your fencing bouts is very important. From time-to-time, weapons fail the tests that the referee does before each bout, or the weapon stops working during a bout. These issues can be easily fixed by the armourer or by maintaining your equipment before the tournament. Having bits and pieces such as points, screws & wire kits will go a long way to helping the situation. The armourer table can help in re-wiring your weapon if you need this done, or getting a new blade mounted if you break your weapon in a few pieces!

Do I have to fence everyone in the tournament?

No! The computer ranks everyone in the tournament according to the Canadian Fencing Federation (CFF) domestic ranking list. The computer then decides who fences in which pool. You may not fence everyone in your event, but you will fence everyone in your pool. After the pools are complete, the computer again ranks all the fencers in your event and produces a Tableau. Everyone fences until they are defeated in a Direct Elimination bout.

Why are there out-of-town fencers at our tournaments?

All Sask Fencing (SFA) tournaments are Open events. This means that anyone can enter them, even our "Provincial Championships" tournament. The SFA encourages all other provinces to send fencers to our events. This benefits our fencers by providing the opportunity to fence different people without leaving our province.

Why won't my coach coach me at SFA tournaments?

The SFA's philosophy is that there is no coaching at provincial tournaments. This philosophy is important to understand, as it is a part of our development process for our fencers. When our fencers fence at tournaments outside the province, the coaches in attendance are not always able to be at the side of the piste. Therefore, our fencers need to know how to assess situations by themselves. They also have to know how to use their skills on their own. When a fencing bout takes place, the coach cannot say anything to the fencer! The coach has to wait until the bout is complete, or at the minute break in Direct Elimination, to talk with his/her athlete.

All athletes are encouraged to think about what happened in the bout and then talk to the coaches, referee, and the other athletes about any questions they may have. Learning to fence can be a little daunting at times and it takes years to become competent. The Saskatchewan Fencing Association is a big family and you will find people are willing to assist young athletes whenever the opportunity arises. We encourage our fencers to be independent thinkers!

The tournament registration form says that only proper fencing clothing is allowed, what is proper fencing clothing? Why can't I wear sweatpants?

Your club has all the fencing clothing equipment you will need for your tournament. You will need a fencing jacket, a mask, an under jacket or sous-plastron, and fencing pants plus a glove.

We ask that no sweatpants be used because fencing pants are safer than sweatpants. Fencing pants will keep the leg area safe, as they are puncture resistant. You also have to wear long socks! Fencing pants only come to just below the knee. The rule we have in fencing says that there is to be no skin showing, so socks must come to the cuff of the fencing pants.

Where can I find results from the tournament?

Results are always posted on our SFA web site at www.saskfencing.com. On the left side of the main page is a link to Results. Results are archived and are current from the latest tournament.