

merican
Fencing



**JULIO MARTINEZ
CASTELLO**

1882-1973

(see page 3)

Official Publication of the Amateur Fencers League of America

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DEADLINE FOR 1973 ISSUES

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EDITORIAL

Question: Why do it? Why expose yourself to the malevolent glances, comments, and sometimes downright accusations of blindness and incompetence, let alone partiality?

Answer: It was done for us during a lifetime of fencing competition. Someone has to do it for today's competitors. It's a debt we feel we must repay. And we really work at it, study the rules, keep up with the changes, and officiate once or twice a week at intercollegiate and AFLA events.

It keeps us pretty busy, but if we are to do a good job we have to keep in practice. In that respect it's like fencing. And as far as the bad manners of the competitor are concerned, one must learn to ignore them. Of course it would help if coaches would stress good manners in competition, their own as well as their students. The majority of coaches teach proper competitive decorum as well as good fencing; the others we hope, will in time learn.

Conclusion: Where would the competitors be if all the officials decided that they had had enough and simply refused to officiate? When a fencer enters a competition he accepts the officials without question. If he would make as few mistakes in his fencing, as the judges in their officiating, he'd win the event.



WALTER B. WHITE

Walter B. White died February 20 at the age of 72. A fencing enthusiast and member of the N.Y.A.C., Mr. White had been a governor of the AFLA and amateur coach at Rutgers University.

American Fencing expresses its condolences to his family and many friends.

NEW MICAHNIK ARRIVES

Phyllis and David Micahnik announce the arrival of Aaron Andrew on January 11, 1973.

JULIO MARTINEZ CASTELLO, MAESTRO DE ARMAS by Jeffrey Tishman

Julio Martinez Castello, fencing coach at New York University from 1927 to 1947 and United States Olympic Coach in 1924, died 15 January 1973, in his home in Tampa, Florida. His age was 91 and he had been in retirement since leaving New York University.

Castello, a Basque, learned fencing at the Royal Academy in Madrid, Spain, graduating in 1905. He was a world renowned professional fencer during the first two decades of this century, performing exhibitions before the crowned heads of Europe and barnstorming throughout Latin America taking on all comers. He also fenced serious bouts with the greatest amateur and professional swordmen of all nations in the years prior to World War I. One such competition occurred in Havana, Cuba, in 1912, where Castello finished second to four-time Olympic Champion Ramon Fonst, in a large foil tournament reserved for fencing masters.

During these years Castello coached in Spain, Cuba, and Argentina, producing national champions in all three nations. Spain's King Alfonso XIII was an early pupil of Castello's in Madrid. Although it is not well known, Castello was an equally adept teacher of equestrian sports and the Basque national game, jai-alai.

He arrived in the United States in 1914 and began immediately to coach at the New York Athletic Club, where his list of pupils included Sherman Hall, Ray Dutcher, and C. R. McPherson, all national champions. At the same time, Castello opened the fencing equipment company that still bears his name and has diversified over the years to become one of the largest fencing and martial arts manufacturing houses anywhere. During his tenure at the New York A. C., Castello taught fencing to Rudolph Valentino, matinee idol of the twenties, and appeared with him in several motion pictures.

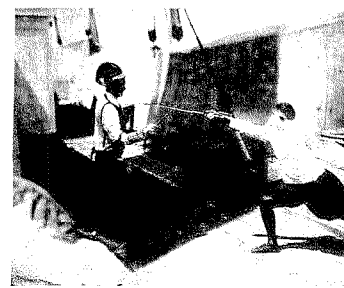
For a short period during the 1920's he coached at Columbia University and Yale

University, where in each case students won intercollegiate titles. that he taught at Stevens Ins Technology for several years.

He was named U. S. Olympic 1924; and by 1927 he was conscientious when he was prevailed Miguel de Capriles and Albert V New York University students, to the first coach of the then only successful N. Y. U. fencing club.

He accepted the position and later N. Y. U.'s squad, by now team, won its first Intercollegiate Association Championship — ear session of the "Little Iron Man" F Trophy, the oldest in American sports. In the four decades since, has won more intercollegiate fencers than any other team, including I.F.A. titles, nine N.C.A.A. crown nine National Intercollegiate Womening Association Championships. Violet fencers have earned All- recognition, and sixteen have come one or more Olympic Games.

Castello was also very proud of menous number of his pupils remained in fencing after graduation petitors and coaches. The mer rosters of every fencing club in York area include his former pupils



Julio Martinez Castello giving a fencing lesson to Adeline Gehrig aboard ship to the VIII Games at Paris, 1924. Castello was the States Olympic Coach and Miss Gehrig of New York Yankee star Lou Gehrig, was member and United States National C from 1920 to 1923.

When Julio Castello finally retired in 1947, he was succeeded by his two sons, Hugo and James. Even in retirement, Castello continued teaching on Saturday mornings to the youngsters in his Tampa neighborhood until he was in his eighties. For a two year period in the early fifties he offered instruction at the University of Tampa.

A memorial service was held at the New York University Chapel on February 16th. N. Y. U. Vice-president Miguel de Capriles made an address on behalf of the university; while Joseph I. Sonnenreich spoke representing the hundreds of N. Y. U. alumni fencers.

The dynasty Julio Castello started is continuing with his sons.

When the Helm's Hall of Fame (now United Savings-Helms Hall) started a fencing division in 1963, Julio Castello was one of the charter inductees.

Castello made a valuable contribution to the literature of fencing in 1933, when his **Theory and Practice of Fencing** was published. Professor Castello recognized the need in the United States for a thoroughly programmed textbook on fencing, which could be used by a student who did not have access to a trained fencing coach. This volume contained detailed explanations and step by step drills for all three weapons. A unique and valuable feature of the book was the appending of the complete AFLA rules. An instructional film was eventually made to accompany the book. An autobiography he compiled in the late 1960's is as yet unpublished.



"Upon your sword sit laurel victory, and smooth success."

Anthony and Cleopatra
Act I, Scene III
culled by Lou Shaff

JULIO MARTINEZ CASTELLO

An Appreciation

By Miguel de Capriles

Vice President and General Counsel,
New York University

Julio Martinez Castello was a great teacher, a great athlete, and a great personality who came to New York University at exactly the midway point in the ninety-one years of his full and productive life, and who left an indelible mark upon that institution, its faculty and its students. I speak officially as a professor and administrator at the University; I speak personally as his grateful and devoted pupil.

When I first met Julio Martinez Castello, he was 45 years of age and I was not yet 21. He was already a living legend in American fencing. He had been one of the world's outstanding professional competitors during the brilliant era that came to an end with the first World War. He had developed amateur champions in his native Spain, in Cuba, in Argentina, and in the United States. He had served as fencing master at the New York Athletic Club and as coach of the 1924 United States Olympic Team. Then he had formally retired.

As it turned out, retirement did not suit Castello's energetic temperament. He soon decided to return to teaching, but he was not interested in devoting his talents mostly to the middle-aged men who flocked to the clubs in those days. Somehow, his desire to develop new fencers from scratch came to the attention of my friend, Albert C. Vogt, who preceded me as captain of the New York University Fencing Team. A meeting was arranged, and it took only a few minutes of conversation in rapid Spanish for Castello to make up his mind that this is where he wanted to teach.

It was typical of the man that our financial limitations were unimportant. We told him we had no budget for coaching; he shrugged his shoulders, we would work out something later. We had no practice quarters; it did not matter, there were classrooms with movable seats that would do for the time being. We had to buy our own equipment and we had very little money; a minor detail, Castello was organizing his own

equipment company and would supply us at cost. The important thing is that we wanted to learn to fence, and to fence well; and Castello wanted to teach us to fence, and to fence well. He said to us then, as he said to many newcomers since, with a flash of his penetrating eyes: "You work; I make you champion." He meant it, we believed him then, and every generation of New York University fencers believed him thereafter. And our faith was always justified.

It did not matter whether we were male or female, tall or short, thin or stout, phlegmatic or temperamental: Castello knew what to do to bring out the best that was in us. He had learned his own fencing originally at the Royal Academy in Madrid, but his professional competitive experience had made him thoroughly familiar with the best fencing techniques used throughout the world. From his vast storehouse of knowledge, he selected what would be most helpful to each of us individually.

The same was true of our leg training. Castello himself had remarkable legs; even in his late forties he moved with a speed only in fencers like Witold Woyda, the 1972 and elasticity that I have seen duplicated Olympic Foil Champion from Poland. Those legs had been one of Castello's chief assets in his epic professional foil bouts with such world-renowned figures as Kirschoffer and Pini, in which attack and defense were so evenly balanced that a three-touch bout might last for an hour of the hardest fighting. Yet Castello did not try to impose his own style on students who might not have the required physical qualities. In consequence, Castello's pupils never could be identified by any standard stance or movement; each one had his own personality.

Castello's resourcefulness overcame all kinds of obstacles. In his early years at New York University the question would be asked whether there would ever come a time when this institution, with its motley, subway-riding student body, could ever beat the college powerhouses of the day — Army, Navy, Yale — which attracted the cream of athletic talent and had the advantage of full-time resident fencing masters. Castello



Papa Castello's last visit to New York University in July, 1969, when his oldest pupils gathered at the New York University Athletic Center to celebrate his 88th birthday. From left to right: Stanley Sieja, Castello's earliest pupil; N.Y.U. and coach at Princeton; Norri former AFLA president and Olympic champion; Albert Vogt, Dorothy Hafner de Capriles, former NIWFA champion; Dr. Miguel de Capriles, N.Y.U.'s first Varsity captain, former FIU coach and the person most responsible for bringing Papa Castello to N.Y.U.; Papa Castello; Dr. Jones Pugliese, the first NIWFA Coach at Hunter College; Phillip Lubliner, former NIWFA coach; Dr. Hugo M. Castello, the present coach.

had a simple answer: "They may be better athletes; we will beat them when we have the better fencers." The metropolis certainly had certain handicaps; it also provided certain advantages which eventually proved to be the winning margin. Within a few months, N.Y.U. fencers began to win in two years, the girls' varsity had won their first women's inter-collegiate championship in three years, N.Y.U. alumni were the national rankings in all weapons in five years, the N.Y.U. men's varsity was firmly established as a major power in collegiate fencing in the United States.

There is no doubt that fencing absorbed professional interest in Castello's life, and that he had the personal drive to excellence which is the hallmark of a great professional not only as a fencer but as useful citizens as well. In fact, Castello always insisted that fencing be subordinate to the academic obligations of his students, and he would not give lessons to those who fell behind in their studies. It

responsibility to insist that students maintain the proper perspective with respect to the relative priorities between academic matters and athletics in their formative years at a great University.

Proper perspective also dedicated Castello's approach to training rules. He fully understood and believed in the importance of healthy habits of life, and he set a fine example of self-discipline in his own behavior. But he had little faith in the value of rigid training rules to be observed for a few weeks during the college fencing season, and then be broken with a bang. He preferred to encourage fencers to develop their own life-long habits of self control. Thus, he advised us against smoking, but if we were "hooked on the weed," he would counsel that we smoke only in moderation. Being a good Basque, he appreciated our male interest in "wine, women and song". but again he would counsel moderation and careful attention to our health. In short, his training program was attuned both to the realities of city living and to the ultimate values of fencing as a lifetime sport. He thought fencing should be fun — a recreation to be enjoyed to the full, for the release of the tensions of our daily existence, by men and women leading normal family and social lives and carrying important burdens in their professional occupations. He wanted us to continue fencing for many years after college, and it is a fact that many of us did precisely that.

Castello was equally concerned with the "character" and mental health of his students. He believed firmly that one of the great values of fencing was to develop self-reliance. The coach's job was over once the fencer went on the strip. Thereafter, what happened in the bout was the responsibility of the fencer, and of the fencer alone. If he worked out his problems successfully, he would deserve and get generous praise; if he failed, he would be invited to improve his skills.

Castello also set a fine example for us in his relationship with other fencing teachers. Castello had known many of the world's outstanding masters, and he enjoyed the

friendship of most of his contemporaries. But whether other teachers were accomplished fencing masters or not, Castello never spoke disparagingly of any of them. He preferred instead to point out their positive contributions to the sport, and it was easy for us, as his students, to take similar attitude toward our own opponents.

Such, in broad outline, is the picture of Julio Martinez Castello as a professor at New York University. One could go further to describe his deep humanistic philosophy and warm personality that made him a trusted and valued counselor to many generations of young men and women, but the topic is inexhaustible. He gave generously of himself to all his pupils, and we were all the better for it. He earned a secure place in our hearts and minds, and throughout his years of retirement, if we heard that he was coming to New York on a visit, we would make a special effort to see him and enjoy a few verbal thrusts and parries in reminiscence of the past. The University can well be proud of the influence that he exercised upon the lives of so many students, for our part, our affectionate feelings are evident when we talk about "Papa Castello." He was for hundreds of us a true surrogate father; I know he was for me, and I am deeply grateful that I had the good fortune to come to maturity as one of his fencing children.

UTICA COLLEGE CLUB

The Utica College Fencing Club is currently meeting on Tuesday and Sunday evenings, under the guidance of Assistant Dean Ron Mason. Interested persons may contact the Dean at (315) 792-3038 in Utica, N.Y.

NORTH ATLANTICS AT GROSSINGER'S

The North Atlantic Championships will be held at Grossinger's Resort in New York on May 12 and 13. Very special rates have been arranged for participants. For details contact: Ruth Sylvester, 10 Parkside Drive, Levittown, New York.

FOURTH ANNUAL SENIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

All fencers 35 or older are invited to compete in the 4th Annual Senior World Championship Games, the "Senior Olympics," to be held in Los Angeles this summer.

Sabre and Women's Foil will be held July 7th, Foil and Epee July 8th, at the Los Angeles Athletic Club, 7th and Olive in downtown Los Angeles. The competition is AFLA sanctioned.

A unique feature of the competition is that fencers are pitted against their peers. Events are staged in age groups in 5-year increments and awards given in each age group. Age groups start with 35 through 39, 40 through 44, etc., and continue as high as there are entries. Last year they went to 70 through 74. First, second, and third place awards are given. All fencers receive a certificate or other recognition for participation.

The Games are sponsored by Senior Sports International, a non-profit organization devoted to promoting healthful participation in sports for athletes who are normally too old to succeed in open competitions. About 30 sports from archery to volleyball are represented.

For information and entry forms send a stamped, self addressed envelope to: Senior Sports International, Mutual of Omaha Bldg., Suite 302, 5225 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, California 90036. Deadline for fencing entries is June 22, 1973.

CHERRY BLOSSOM OPEN

The Washington D. C. Division will conduct its annual Cherry Blossom Open on April 14 and 15 this year. The schedule of events is: Epee and Women's Foil, Saturday; Men's Foil and Sabre, Sunday; with check in times of 9:00 and 10:30 each day. Advance entry is required and the entry fee is \$5 per event. Send entries to or contact Alan Centa 400 Browning Ave. #14, Takoma Park, Md. 20012 (301) 585-8483.

PENN STATE OFFICIATING by Maxwell R. Garret

On May 11-12, 1973 Penn State the continuing education service University College of Health, Physical Education and Recreation will conduct on fencing officiating for physical education coaches for youth group level teachers, and for students.

The clinic staff will include Davnik, former Olympian; Maxwell R. Associate Professor of Recreation and Penn State Varsity Fencing Coach. Mary Beth Alphin, Instructor in Education and Penn State Women's Coach.

Anyone wishing further information this continuing education activity, phone:

Professor Maxwell R.
Penn State University
261 Recreation Hall
University Park, Penn
Phone: (814) 865-18

THE LONG ISLAND DIVISION OF THE A.F.L.A.

expresses its deepest sympathy

to the Castello family

on the sad occasion of their

loss of

JULIO MARTINEZ CASTELLO

From The President



When the New Administration got its feet on the ground after only a few months in office, it took to the air and conducted the first Board of Directors meeting in California in many years. Many policy issues were decided at this important meeting.

AFLA Youth Program: Because of the unanimous agreement concerning the importance of this program, and the disagreement concerning the details and direction, this project probably received the most extensive study. The results of the AFLA public opinion poll are printed separately. The Board decided to retain both the Under-19 Nationals and the Junior Olympic Championships, and to select the Under-20 team from the results of both events. Mailed in votes and letters on this subject had an important part in the decision which was made.

One important comment on the Youth Program — The 1973 Under-20 Team produced by a combination of the Nationals and Junior Olympics is outstanding; the level of fencing this year was high and the field was strong. Colleges will be advised of the annual dates around the Washington's Birthday weekend and requested to avoid schedule conflicts between it and the college dual meets. Selection of sites whenever possible will be on a one year east and one year west basis.

An integration of the Under-19 Nationals in June and the Under-20 Junior Olympics in February will be adopted to make one program. The point system has been modified to reduce first place from 35 to 25 points, to encourage competition in both events for selection.

Indicators to Replace Barrages: Indicators will replace barrages at the 1973 National. However, since many Divisions have already conducted qualification rounds, the use of either indicators or barrages would be at

the discretion of the Division for Division qualification this year.

Finals of 6 or larger: The proposal to require finals of 6 instead of allowing bout committee discretion received a tie vote of the Board members present. Rather than resolve the tie, I decided to submit the subject to a mail vote of the entire board.

Women's Epee and Sabre: The Board decided to authorize each Division to hold Women's Epee and Sabre events on an experimental basis, provided adequate safety equipment is available. In this regard a "mini-epee" (foil type blade with epee points and guard) was recommended. The results of all such events and evaluation must be reported to the National Secretary. Mixed bouts between men and women are still unauthorized.

Special Club Representation Rule for College Students: The Board resolved a rules conflict between the AFLA rules which prohibit a change of club in a fencing season and the ECAC rules which requires a student to represent only his college during the college season. In this limited circumstance, a student will be permitted to represent a club outside the college season, and a college during the college season in individual events only. (In team events the prior rule remains — he can only represent one team — club or school — throughout a fencing year unless a change of club representation is approved by the Board of Directors.)

A Special Note of Thanks: During two weekends, I visited the Colorado Division, and the Southern California Division. Both Section Chairman (Jan Romary and Gerrie Baumgart) had receptions and the Division Chairmen (Lee Lawyer and Fred Linkmeyer) were perfect hosts. The University of Colorado (Claude Caux, fencing master, Joe Dramise and Bob Fults) provided me with

a tour of their new athletic facilities. I was invited to fence with the cadets of the Air Academy by coach Nick Toth. A special open Sabre event was scheduled during my visit by the Colorado Division.

I wish to express my thanks for the hospitality extended. But more important, is my realization that a common interest unites all fencers throughout the United States. Although disagreement may exist on specific issues, similarity of goals and purposes enable these issues to be resolved by consideration of the merits of a controversy, rather than by personality conflicts among individuals. There are many people devoted to fencing who, when working together, will provide the greatest development of our sport.

(Ed. Note: Readers are cautioned that the use of a "mini epee" is contrary to Para. 308 of the 1970 Rules Book, not to speak of the difficulties which may ensue by trying to fit two wires into the foil blade groove, plus the added stiffness of a blade designed to correctly mount an epee point and meet epee flexibility requirements.)



U.S.A. TEAM FOR WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS
Buenos Aires, Argentina April 2
Foil: M. Dale; D. Littell; K. Page.
T. McConville.

Epee: T. Glass; M. Israel; C. Jern
ternate: J. Irwin.
Sabre: S. Danosi; E. De Vivo; T.
Alternate: T. Graham.
Women: I. Farkas; V. Hurley; G.
Alternate: S. Johnson
Chief of Mission: Chaba M.
Captains: A. Jack Keane, Denise
Coaches: Michael Dasaro, Dr. Frai
Manager: Dr. Ralph Zimmerman; I
Dr. Robert Hurley; Jury Member
Gall, William Goering; Armorer: M
rest.

CORRECTIONS ON RANK

The National Rankings for the and Epee listed in the previous American Fencing are incorrect and be revised as follows:

U-19 Foil: 1. Littell; 2. Dale; 3. Jennings; 5. Charles; 6. McConville
U-19 Epee: 1. Jennings; 2. Dale; 4. Mullarkey; 5. Anderson; 6. Dale

RESULTS OF PUBLIC OPINION POLL

(101 votes cast — 21 from Mich.; 16 from N.J., 13 from California; balance other areas.)

31 Voters under-19, 46 Voters Over 19, 19 Non-Competitive Members, 5 Not in Rules for Nationals

A. Qualification: From Division 48 From Section 50

B. Promotion from Pools with ties: by fence off 45
by indicator 55

C. Size of Finals: Pool of 6 61 Pool of 8 or 9 39

D. Events in Nationals:

As is 44 No Under-19 37 No Teams 13 Indiv. Only 6

Under-19 Nationals

A. Team Selection: Nationals Only 20; Jr. Olympic Only 23; Both 57

B. Jr. Olympic Format: Pools 46 Large Round Robin 43

C. Under 19 Qualification to Nationals:

From Division 42 From Sections 50

D. Dates of Jr. Olympic event:

Washington's Birthday 49 Other 32* No Opinion 18 Not at All 2

* (most in the other preferred late March & April around Easter, which is a more convenient immediately following the Collegiate season. Unfortunately, this is too late if the qualification for selection to the Under-20 Team.)

AMENDMENTS TO AFLA FENCING RULES

(Ed Note: Following here are amendments to AFLA fencing rules, adopted by the Executive Committee of the AFLA at its meeting of Jan. 29, 1972.

These rules follow amendments adopted by the FIE in June 1971, and have been promulgated to AFLA divisions as part of the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting. Competitors are reminded that the use of the flat foil point becomes mandatory in official AFLA competitions, by resolution of the committee, as of Sept. 1, 1973.)

Art. 27, Par.5: Amend present text to read: "They must be made of sufficiently robust material, be clean and in good condition. The jacket and the collar must be completely buttoned or closed. The breeches must be secured below the knees; if trousers are worn, they must be buttoned above the foot.

At all weapons, fencer's clothing must include a pair of white stockings covering the leg to just below the breeches and must be secured so that they cannot fall down."

Art. 28: Delete the amendment of Jan. 1971, delete the reference Cf. 657 and the footnote on this page; substitute Cf. 641 b.

Art. 29 Amend present text to read: "At foil and epee, every thrust with the point must reach the target clearly and distinctly to be counted a hit. (Cf. 218, 316). At saber hits with the point, with the edge, or with the back edge must reach the target clearly and distinctly to be counted as good (Cf. 409).

Art. 30: Delete the amendment of Jan. 1971. Add new paragraph at the end of this article:

"At foil, covering the target during a bout with the unarmed hand or arm is also forbidden. The penalty for the transgression of this rule is the annulment of a hit made by the fencer who commits the fault, or a penalty of one hit after previous warning during the same bout (Cf. 640, 641, 642).

Art. 31: Delete the amendment of Jan. 1971 and replace by:

"If, during a bout, the President observes that one of the competitors is using his unarmed hand or arm, he can ask for the

assistance of two judges, who shall be neutral whenever possible, and shall be appointed by the Directoire Technique (Bout Committee). These judges, placed on either side of the strip, will each observe one of the competitors and will advise the President either by raising a hand or on his interrogation as to the use of the unarmed hand or arm. The President then alone decides what penalties are to be imposed (Cf 640). Alternatively the President may require the two competitors to changes ends so that the competitor who is committing the fault no longer has his back to him."

Art 72: Add to the reference at the end of the second paragraph "(Cf. 222)".

Art. 218 Add at end:

"Every thrust with the point must reach the target clearly and distinctly to be counted as a hit."

Art. 316: Add at end of first paragraph:

"Every thrust with the point must reach the target clearly and distinctly to be counted as a hit."

Art. 640: Delete the amendment of Jan. 1971 and replace by:

"d. For the irregular use of the unarmed hand or arm.

1. At all weapons, annulment of the hit made by the competitor who commits the fault and penalty of one hit after previous warning given during the same pool or team match or the matches by direct elimination.
2. At foil, for protecting or covering target during a bout with the unarmed hand or arm, after previous warning during same bout:
 - A. If no valid hit has been scored, penalty of one hit added to the score of the competitor penalized;
 - B. If a valid hit has been scored by the competitor who commits the fault, annulment of that hit;
 - C. Since, however, a bout cannot be won by the application of these penalties, the penalty to be imposed on the competitor who commits the fault in these circumstances will be to remove a hit

from his opponent's score or to annul a hit which he has scored (Cf. 30)."

Art. 641 b: Add new article as follows: "f For removing the mask before the President has given his decision (Cf. 28).

After warning during the same bout:

1. If no valid hit has been scored, penalty of one hit added to the score of the competitor penalized;
2. If a valid hit has scored by the competitor who commits the fault, annulment of that hit;
3. Since, however, a bout cannot be won by the application of these penalties, the penalty to be imposed on the competitor who commits the fault in these circumstances will be to remove a hit from his opponent's score or to annul a hit which he has scored."

Note. The headings of the following paragraphs (Article 642 to 647) lettered f, g, h, i, j, k; to be re-lettered g, h, i, j, k, l.



Finalists in the Stella Fox Goldsorial competition held Jan. 14, at Hun in New York, are (from l or r): Nat widow, 6th; Anne Cocuzza, 5th; Elizat ion, 1st; Burna Abbot, 2nd; Cheryl W Nina Birnbaum 4th. The competition the Metropolitan Division's Qualifying the National U-19 Championships.



JULIO MARTINEZ CASTELL

We Thank the Many Friends in the Fencing World
Who Have Written or Telephoned
with Expression of Sympathy.

Hugo and James Castello

U.S. FENCING MASTERS

Anyone interested in participating in a U. S. National Masters Championships, to be held in Tucson, Arizona, are asked to write to Raoul Sudre, Department of Athletics, Teagle Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, 14850. It is anticipated that the competitions will be held in three weapons as a complete round robin; and results will be used to select the American Team for the World Masters Tournament in Karlsruhe, Germany, during August, 1974.

Expenses for the trip will probably be covered by the National Fencing Coaches Association of America (NFCAA). Candidates for the team must have the following qualifications: 1. NFCAA membership; 2. Hold a Masters Certificate; 3. Hold residency in the United States (note: citizenship is not mandatory).

NFCAA membership applications are available by writing the secretary; Alfred R. Peredo/Hatfield Road — RD #1/Mahopac, New York 10541.

ISRAELI TOURNAMENT

An International Under-17 Foils Championship will be held in Israel July 22-31, 1973, in memory of Andre Spitzer, Israel Olympic Fencing Coach who was killed during the Olympic Games. The Israel Sports Federation has announced the establishment of an Annual Championship for boys and girls to promote Sport, Friendship and Peace. The Program, in addition to the competition, includes fencing lessons at Training camps, sightseeing trips and other social events. All fencers who have not reached the age of 17 on the date of the competition, are eligible to participate. Competitors who feel they are qualified to be considered for selection, by reason of past performance, experience, and ability are invited to send their applications to AFLA International Selection Committee, c/o Peter Tishman, 37 Griswold Place, Glen Rock, New Jersey 07452. Applications should be submitted at once with the understanding that travel and other arrangements will be at the individual's own expense.

JOSEPH "BERT" FREEMAN

by Dan Lyons

A remarkable young man. Calm, quiet, modest, a noncomplainer yet determined and tough. These are the kind of words that best describe your 1972 National Foil Champion.

A 1970 graduate of the U. S. Naval Academy who took up fencing for the first time as a freshman just out of curiosity, he made up his mind early this year to make a try for the Olympic team. Bert knew it would be tough because though he had some credentials, he hadn't really had a chance to train since entering the Marine Corps. The highlights of his past record were:

1969 — Eastern Intercollegiates 5th,
NCAA 11th

1969 — NCAA 3rd, All American Team
1970 — NCAA 7th, Foil Fencer of the Year

Believe it or not he entered his first major AFLA meet only in 1970, making the finals of the Martini-Rossi where he beat Jenő Kamuti, the great Hungarian internationalist. The Nationals was his second important meet and he ended 10th. With surprising success for a man who didn't have a chance to work out, he took 8th in the 1971 North Atlantics, 2nd in the Armed Forces Championship and 9th in the CISM in Sweden.

In a rap session with his coach Andre Deladrier in the Spring, Bert's strong and weak points were fully discussed and he came away with a new understanding of his game as well as with a plan for action. He would work to do better what he already could do well and avoid as much as possible doing things in which he was weakest. Despite hard training 3 to 4 days and nights each week, results were not encouraging; 12th in the Martini and failure to make the finals in the North Atlantics. Then it all began to come together. On May 21 he took first in the Metropolitan Championships and the dream of making the Olympic team looked real. And real it was indeed.

Born in Albingdon, Pennsylvania, July 18, 1948, Bert has one brother and is hap-



photo by
contributed by A
First Lieutenant Joseph "Bert" Freeman

pily married to the former S Vaughn. Now a First Lieutenant, our ion has not yet decided whether continue in the military, figuring tl years more of duty will help him r answer. He is interested in taki uate work in mathematics, but he timetable for that.

Fencing ambitions are another Bert believes that he can go a l and wants to keep working. A thri our national title is understatin him. It was the greatest to a g says he just loves fencing and com



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**IN DEFENCE OF
TODAY'S SABRE FENCING**
by S. Thomas Orley

In all certainty, you will hear and read all sorts of criticism about today's sabre fencing. Everyone will tell you what's wrong with the new style and how mediocre the level of competition became since the disappearance of the "old guard". Well, I can only say that I wish I would have been smart enough to develop this new strategy 8 years ago. It would have been a relatively simple thing to rigorously adhere to, and being the only one at that time to use it, I would have had tremendous success with it.

What is this new strategy or style? To the superficial observer it looks like two fencers, but to their lack of technical ability, constantly attacking each other simultaneously; and even that simple attack is poorly executed. The attack in general is executed without preparation — i.e. without playing with the distance — starting from outside the normal attacking distance, immediately following the "allez". Since the distance is too large to make a straight attack, there is a step forward and lunge (or fleche), but during the forward step and even during the beginning of the lunge, the fencer's eyes are open, searching for an opening, and only during the last phase of the attack the blade is turned to the open target. It is humanly impossible to parry that kind of an attack. If one of the fencers retreats, he is through, he lost all initiative and he is at the mercy of his adversary. In most cases he will step over the warning line and it will be even more difficult to do anything else than attack the next time around. If he decides to do a second intention parry he is gambling and his odds to win are far less than in Las Vegas.

So what in actual fact happens is 10, 20 or more simultaneous attacks are carried out one after another until one of the fencers cracks up. He will retreat, or will try a second intention parry and in 90% of the cases he gets touched. If he tries

a stopcut, this percent changes to 99%.

I watched in Munchen in amazement how the "old" fencers (32-40 years) and some of the great ones of yesterday got crushed within seconds by the young athletes. Yes, I said athletes. Because this style takes tremendous athletic ability, condition, endurance, willpower, guts. Finally this sport became a truly athletic event. How many of us could ever do 20 step-forward-lunge at great speed for just to score one touch, that is a hundred per bout and close to 3000 in a normal one day competition. Can YOU?

There is another side benefit, and that might explain the origin of this strategy. The arbiter and jury can hardly make a "mistake". I have never seen so little discussion or objection to the decisions made by the jury. But I must admit I have never seen a more monotonous, outright boring event either. But it wouldn't have been so boring if I would have stood on the victor's pedestal — and that you should keep in mind when you hear poor mouthing about today's sabre fencing.

(Ed. Note: Some of our readers may not be familiar with the problem in sabre fencing enumerated here. International sabre fencing has for the past few seasons been plagued by an inordinate number of "simultaneous actions". This makes for very dull fencing for everyone; except perhaps for the people who are doing it, in any case, some solution must be worked out. The suggestion that the double hit be awarded against both fencers, as in epee, might be a temporary expedient, but with the injurious side effect of allowing the leading fencer to go for a double hit. The problem arises from a failure in technique under pressure, both in the fencers and in the officials.)

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COMMENT ON SABER
by Csaba Eithes

What Mr. Orley, former U.S. sabre champion and Olympian says is true. There is no question that if we want to have any success in the next Pan American Games or at Montreal we must follow the new style of fencing whether it is esthetically pleasing or not.

Everything is in constant change, and this is especially true of fencing. In Munich we saw the success of the Hungarian style of epee. In the individual final the hits went 85% to the body. Only six hand thrusts were counted.

At present not only the sabre but the modern epee and foil fencing is characterized by speed and perfect legwork. Only a really good athlete can expect significant results. This kind of fencing demands more time and sacrifice from anyone who would like to be an internationalist. Lessons alone are not enough anymore. Condition, endurance, will power, and perfectly executed basic actions of fencing are required.

This is the point where American is weakest. To teach without over these mistakes is the most tedious work for both pupil and coach, but way to succeed. Munich showed time of amateur preparation is over have to do is to look at the nation have come to the fore since Mexico, Romania, Bulgaria, East and West (etc). They will advance even further what of the U.S.A.?

If our teaching is antiquated and taut, it is vain to have young talent each of our fencers learns to perform cute simple actions, we won't get a To teach on this level needs tremendous sacrifice and time from our coach first of all we have to learn modern fencing. To learn is never a shame. That be our slogan, too.

It is really in the hands of the leader Will they change things or not? My is that if we don't change radically, sink into the darkness.

It's time to work on your comeback



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CHAMPIONSHIPS AND TRYOUTS A SECOND CHANCE ROUND

by E. Turney

The AFLA and the Northern California coaches have had problems for several years. When the coaches encourage the collegiate or beginning fencer to enter the AFLA competitions the fencer often gets wiped out. Several frankly stated it was not worth the money involved. No fencer comes to a competition prepared to lose yet there can be only one winner. The unhappy fencer then represents a problem to the coach in his own fencing program. The AFLA does not have a steady supply of graduating fencers and the clubs have a dwindling group of fencers and few and poor directors.

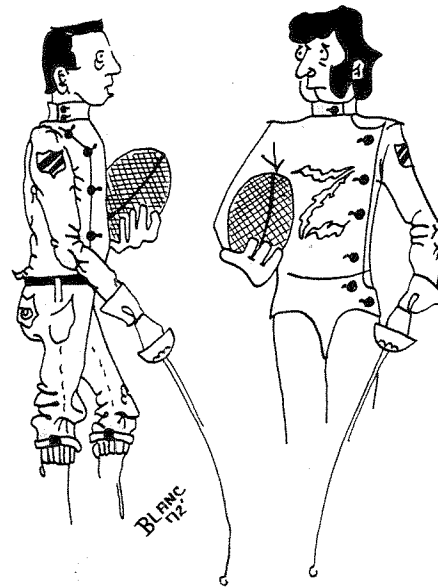
All in all, this is a bad situation. Fencing in high school and collegiate groups shows a tremendous increase of interest. This interest is **not reflected** in the AFLA memberships. The AFLA has the only cross section of level of competition available to

some of these groups. The problem is how to keep enough interest in the AFLA while the beginning fencer is learning the sport.

In our opens (except qualifying event) we have a "second chance round". Those people, who desire it, that lose in the first round may stay and fence in a separate round. This round is during the semi-finals with the winner qualifying to the final round.

This way we can assure all fencers, beginning or lazy of at least two rounds of fencing.

The losers do their own directing with availability of more experienced directors in case of questions. We find that the younger and less experienced fencer is interested longer, and has more feedback to his own fencing and directing. This method seems to work as we are having more and more collegiate fencers entering, directing and winning in our Division tournaments.



Fencing with Zzygzby again?

AMBIDEXTROUS FENCING

by George F. Miller

Why learn to fence with either hand? And does a lefthanded fencer have an inherent advantage over a right-handed fencer?

In answer to the above second question, when several members in a club or fencing group fence left-handed the right-handers soon become used to the change of position of four and six and thus, the better right-hander will usually be able to "take" the left hander. However, if and when a right-hander first encounters a left-hander in a bout or match, why then a "disaster" if one learns to fence with either hand, may be in the making.

In answer to the above first question: then the body development is equal and perhaps the "grace" of movements of the body and extremities become approximately equal. Also, being able to fence ambidextrously is perhaps, of some advantage in the instruction of beginners, especially those that are left-handed.

1972-73 FLORIDA INTERCOLLEGIATE FENCING ASSOCIATION

The Florida State University fenc team won the F.I.F.A. annual trophy for second consecutive year. FSU captured 14 team events during the colleg season. The two remaining team events Men's Foil, were won by the Univ Florida and Miami — Dade Junior — North Campus. The annual women's trophy was also taken by FSU bringing all four women's team even point standings:

	Overall
Florida State University	146
Miami-Dade JC - N. Campus	102
Brevard Community College	92
Stetson University	52
University of Florida	48
Eckerd College	30

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MONTREAL . . . Only 40 Months Away by Michel A. Sebastiani

(Ed Note: Michel A. Sebastiani is fencing coach at Brooklyn College and was formerly with Cornell University.)

Munich is over, are we ready for the next Olympics? A lot has to be done in the field! Let's take a look at our past team roster: the evidence tells us that some of our Olympians will be absent in Montreal — either retired or simply unable to honor their selection at this time.

Everyone would hope, though, that if the experienced fencers do not make the '76 Olympic team, the reason for it would be that they were pushed aside by young, hungry, and talented hopes; the older fencers themselves would enjoy such a necessary challenge.

But does one actually foresee any serious threat in the near future — the next three years or so — to the elders? Not really!

We all know that there are some talented individuals around the country. For the 1976 Games we should already have at least 20 contenders of equal strength in each of the four weapons. In that case, the competition for the five top spots would bring quality overall and would save us from constant elimination in the first rounds of high-level contests.

Where to find fencers, how to interest them, how to train them, how to keep them involved in fencing? I have questioned many competitors from High Schools, Colleges, etc. Their answers have the same substance: "Not enough time to practice, no money, no qualified instructors in the area, studies, profession, family, jobs, etc., etc."

This is true, this is a fact, we all know this condition. But the problem is the same; do we want an Olympic medal, yes or no?

If the answer is "Yes" then some sacrifices have to be made. **Methods to find more time for practice have to be discovered by everyone.** Once a fencer is mentally geared to seriously work, then it is time to help him. May I expose some ideas for a nationwide program of detection and training for young fencers with some experience?

Our basic problems: the size of the country, the long travels, expenses. Consequently, competitions for Olympic potentials are too scarce. How to cope with this problem?

1. Every instructor throughout the United States — High Schools, Colleges, Clubs — sends the names of his three top performers in each weapon to the AFLA (National Office) by the end of October.
2. The AFLA divides these names into 5 groups and assigns the competitors to 5 designated "fence-off" cities closest to their division (for example: Los Angeles, Miami, San Antonio, Chicago, New York), for a competition held the same day in each of the five cities during the Christmas recess. At each of these competitions a local instructor, coach, official, or master appointed by the AFLA would scout and report names of the most promising talents, men and women.
3. The first five fencers in each weapon from the five cities would be convoked sometime in March to compete in a final round to be held in a central city.

The first ten fencers in this final (in each weapon) should be designated as "pre-selected for Montreal" and financially helped for the rest of the season (weapons, entry fees). They should have explained to them what is expected of them and what their program outline should cover in order to become an Olympian.

1. They must enter every AFLA competition available to them and follow a conditioning program (given to them at this time).
2. They will be scouted at every competition by a coach or person in charge (designated by AFLA).
3. After the AFLA Nationals, in which they must take part, they should be sent to the training sessions with experienced fencers getting ready for the World Championship at this time. This is an opportunity to meet the top men and women and share their

life for one or two weeks.

This program has the advantage of spreading fencing and increasing participation. The young fencers would feel "backed up" by the officials; they would see a goal in their effort and a possible reward of making an Olympic team. Their faith in their work would assure them financial support for the next year. Financially, it does not seem more expensive than sending fencers to major tournaments in Europe where they do not have time to learn anything. They do not fence extensively at home; why send them 5,000 miles away to confront experience and highly trained and motivated individuals? After a very serious and tough schedule of training here, both young and old would approach the big competitions with more confidence, more desire, and above all, better performances.

Such a "Montreal '76" program could be worked out if everyone decides to help at once, everywhere, everyday.

I have already started my own experiment with some of the most dedicated of

my pupils and everyday my "Montreal candidates" take part in an industrial revolution. Many resigned after the first sweat, it is true, but a small group the daily struggle. The mental preparation is as important as the physical; they are aware that possibly none will make it in. They are ready to occur, — they suffer, but slowly become lovers of fencing. This is to success.

CORNELL OPEN

The Cornell University Fencing Club sponsor an open competition in all weapons on Saturday, April 14 and Sunday, April 15. Interested persons should send their resumes to Cornell Fencing Club, Teagler, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York,

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Letters to the Editor

The Editor
American Fencing
Dear Mr. Goldstein,

There is nothing more frustrating to a fencer than to go "la Belle" and then lose a bout; especially if the fencer came up to tie the score from an 0-3 score. It's just as frustrating for a coach who gets tired of saying "You lost, but you fenced well". On occasion the answer to the problem can be a lack of endurance, undue hesitation, loss of confidence, or being recklessly in a hurry to get it over with. But what is the answer to a fencer who consistently runs a 3-3 score and loses? A good point to consider might be that if women fenced for five touches it might be fairer all around. This, of course, is a topic for discussion in itself and may or may not be good to initiate. However, what's to stop the dilemma of the "la belle" from going to 4-4? The answer cannot lie entirely in the particular personality characteristics of the fencers, nor for that matter, in a particular sex. I have had fellows aged 10 and 11, as well as 17 and 18 who can fence 8 out of 10 bouts and lose them all "la belle". At present several of the women's intercollegiate teams are running into a similar situation. If the answer is purely psychological, my next question would be "how do you cope with the fencer that has this block"? Perhaps there is no concrete answer, or an abstract

one either, for that matter, but I would appreciate comments from coaches with more experience than myself. For me it's an unanswered dilemma that has plagued me since I began coaching teams four years ago.

Yours truly
Kit Boesch, Women's Coach
Ohio State University

The Editor
American Fencing
Dear Ralph,

In reading through "Letters to the Editor" in the last edition of American Fencing, I was surprised to learn that Kate Alexander was from Florida State University as stated in the letter from Jennifer James. I am sorry to say that Mrs. Alexander is not, never has been, and probably never will be from FSU.

Kate Alexander has served as Secretary-Treasurer of the Florida Gold Coast Division for several years and, to my knowledge, has done a superior job. Anyone over the age of nineteen who has been involved in fencing for any appreciable amount of time knows the difficulty of running a sectional tournament and reporting the results accurately. The difficulty is compounded when there are several entries from two schools which are as frequently confused as Florida State University and the University of Florida.

In closing, I would like to thank Kate for a job well done under trying circumstances.

Sincerely,
Ron Brown, Vice-President
Southeast Section, A.F.L.A.

Rules and Officiating

by Chaba Pallaghy



In response to a number of requests received from various parts of the country regarding classification of officials, I am hereby quoting an excerpt from the Board of Directors decision establishing the United States Commission on Fencing Rules and Officials, dealing with the part pertaining to directors qualifications.

Rating of Officials:

- a. Existing classifications (1, 1A, 2 and 3) are retained.
- b. Each division rates its own officials: 1, 1A.
- c. After achieving a 1A rating and officiating with this rating for a minimum of one year and for at least four senior division events as evidenced by appropriate entries in the official's record book, the official may submit his book to the divisional executive committee for approval to apply for a class 2 license. If the divisional executive committee approves, they forward the book and application and their endorsement to the sectional executive committee.
- d. The sectional executive committee arranges for an examination of the candidate at the sectional event. The examination consists of a written test and practical exam.
- e. The written examination will be prepared in sealed envelopes by the Commission for each candidate. The questions are to be selected from a master list of questions to be published by the Commission. The Commission will determine the passing grade. The written test must be passed before the practical examination can be taken.
- f. After the examination, the result is to be announced to the candidate to-

gether with comments for improvement. The relationship between didate and examiners is the student and teacher.

- g. After a minimum of one year carrying a No. 2 license and at competitions, of which at least is a sectional (all for which is c by appropriate entries in the book) a candidate may apply sectional executive committee approval to be examined for a license. If approved by the sectional executive committee, the applicant endorsement and record book, be forwarded to the Chairman Commission.
- h. The Commission corresponds with candidate and arranges for arrangement at a suitable time.

Recommendation for International 1

- a. The Commission will set standards when a national license holder or international license class apply for international examination.
- b. The Chef de Mission of each Championship Team is to be selected, at the time of selection team personnel, to obtain from Commission the names of those are to be examined for international license class B or class A. The Chef de Mission has the responsibility requesting examination of those by submitting an official request to the Directoire Technique. The United States Rules Commission is currently engaged in updating a new rules book and we will shortly have a new program to upgrade U. S. fencing. A brand new rules book is in preparation and will incorporate all current rules.

FLIMS INTERNATIONAL

The Flims International, sponsored by the Swiss Fencing Federation, will be held in 1966 and 1967. Interested parties may further information from C. Pallaghy, Queens Boulevard, Forest Hills, N.Y.

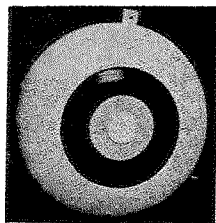
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RULES FOR 1973 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

by Carla-Mae Richards
Chairman, Bout Committee

The 1973 Nationals will be hosted by the Arizona Division at the Tucson Community Exhibition Hall located right off the Freeway at Congress Street in Tucson, Arizona. The Chairman of the Organizing Committee is Mike Snell.

WHAT TO FILE: Every entry MUST contain a properly formulated entry application with the requisite entry and registration fees PAYABLE TO AFLA-NATIONALS (Check or money order) along with a STAMPED SELF-ADDRESSED LEGAL SIZE (LARGE) ENVELOPE.

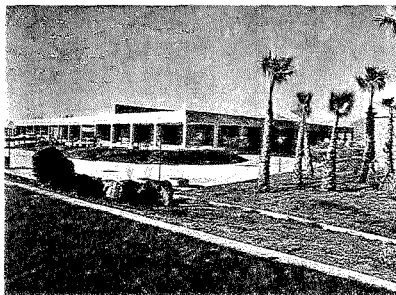
WHERE & WHEN TO FILE: All entries must be received by May 26th and sent to Mrs. E. Richards, AFLA, 41 Central Ave., Newtonville, MA 02160.

WHO MAY FILE AN ENTRY: Entry to the National Championships is open to all American citizens and permanent residents of the U.S. who have qualified thru Divisional qualifying rounds or thru automatic qualification (Chap. V, Sect. B, 1970 Operations Manual of AFLA). Anyone wishing to participate is PERSONALLY responsible for filing a complete entry on time. Team entries must be filed by Team Captain.

ACCEPTANCE: Within one week of the entry deadline, entries will be checked against the certified list of qualifiers and alternates endorsed by the Secretary of the AFLA. The number eligible to qualify from each Division will be determined and compared to the number of valid entries on hand from each Division. The entries and fees of invalid or incomplete entries and of alternates in excess of permissible number from the Division will be returned. All entries accepted will be so notified at the same time.

NOTE: YOU MAY ENTER ONLY IF YOU ARE CERTIFIED AS A QUALIFIER BY YOUR DIVISION SECRETARY AND IF THE NATIONAL PORTION OF YOUR DUES HAS BEEN FORWARDED BY YOUR DIVISION BEFORE ENTRY DEADLINE.

CERTIFICATION: Immediately upon the



Tucson Community Center, site of the 1973 U.S. National Fencing Championships.

completion of the qualifying competition in each weapon the Division Secretary shall transmit to the League Secretary the following information:

1. The number of eligible fencers taking part in the qualifying competition (number of Division fencers participating who are not automatic qualifiers).
2. The names of qualifiers from that Division including automatics who are members of the Division in order of their placement in the qualifying competition.
3. The names of alternates in each weapon in order of placement.
4. The teams authorized to represent the Division and any alternates.

This information MUST REACH the League Secretary by MAY 15th. Failure to provide this information will cause disqualification of competitors from that Division.

Each Sectional Secretary MUST SUBMIT the list of Sectional Champions, finalists and Under-19 qualifiers to the National Secretary by May 18th.

NOTE: EACH ENTRANT IN THE UNDER-19 SHOULD HAVE EVIDENCE THAT HE HAS NOT REACHED HIS 19th BIRTHDAY AS OF JANUARY 1, 1973.

FEES: The registration fee for each entrant including those fencing in team only is \$7.50; for each senior individual event, fee is \$12.00; for each Under-19 event, fee is \$7.50; and for each team event, fee is \$25.00 per team. All fees must be included with the entry. Entry forms with insufficient payment will be returned.

UNIFORMS & EQUIPMENT: All weapons, uniforms and equipment must conform STRICTLY to the rules and regulations of the AFLA. Fencers are advised that it is their personal responsibility to know the pertinent rules and regulations as set forth in the AFLA 1970 Rules Book and in amendments thereto; and to have their equipment conform to safety, sizes and dimensions, cleanliness, etc. The under-arm garment is required in ALL weapons and in foil ONLY FLAT TIPS will be permitted; concentric ring points are no longer valid. At all weapons, fencer's clothing must include a pair of white stockings covering the leg to just below the breeches and must be secured so that they cannot fall down.

TROPHIES: All 1972 winners of trophies are responsible for delivering the trophies to the competition polished and in good condition.

DOPING PROGRAM: The doping program will be conducted only for those fencers in the senior individual events with those eliminated in the semi-finals tested at the end of the semi's and the finalists tested at the conclusion of the finals.

IOC DEFINITION OF "DOPING": "Doping is the administration of or the use by a competing athlete of any substance foreign to the body or of any physiological substance taken in abnormal quantity or taken by an abnormal route of entry into the body, with the sole intention of increasing in an artificial and unfair manner his performance in competition. WHEN NECESSITY DEMANDS MEDICAL TREATMENT WITH ANY SUBSTANCE which because of its nature, dosage or application is able to boost the athlete's performance in competition in an artificial and unfair manner, this is to be regarded as doping".

If you have any questions or desire more information on this program write to Dr. Marius Valsamis, 375 Vanderbilt Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y. 11238. The penalties for any one found to be using a substance as defined in the above will be immediate disqualification from the competition and severe sanction by the AFLA.

FORMAT OF NATIONALS: At the February 17th meeting of the AFLA Board of Directors in California the following change was approved for the National Championships for qualifications to the next year will be resolved using indicator value a fence-off only if there is a tie on indicator value. In conjunction with this the Board decided that each Division has the option of using indicators or indicator offs to resolve ties for promotion to the next year only in their qualifying events for the Nationals. After this year it will be mandatory for each Division to use indicators to solve ties for promotion in their National qualifying events.

The individual events will be conducted by round-robin pool method through the finals of six fencers. The team events will be conducted with one round of pool followed by direct elimination through the

1973 NATIONALS: SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- Sat., June 23:** Men's Foil (to Semi-Finals)
Director's Clinic: 5 P.M.
- Sun., June 24:** Sabre (to Semi-Finals)
Men's Foil: Semi-Finals & Finals
- Mon., June 25:** Men's Foil Team
Sabre: Semi-Finals & Finals (7 P.M.)
- Tues., June 26:** Women's Foil (to Semi-Finals)
Sabre Team (12:30 P.M.)
Annual Meeting of the AFLA (8 P.M.)
- Wed., June 27:** Epee (to Semi-Finals)
Women's Foil: Semi-Finals & Finals
- Thurs., June 28:** Women's Foil Team
Under-19 Men's Foil (12 P.M.)
Epee: Semi-Finals & Finals
- Fri., June 29:** Epee Team
Under-19 Sabre (12:30 P.M.)
AFLA Board of Directors Meeting (8 P.M.)
- Sat., June 30:** Under-19 Women's Foil
Under-19 Epee (11 A.M.)
GALA NIGHT (7 P.M.)

All events start at 8:30 A.M. unless otherwise noted. Semi-Finals of Senior Individual start at 5 P.M. Finals of Senior Individual start at 7:30 P.M. unless otherwise noted.

WORLD UNIVERSITY GAMES: The trials for the selection of the U.S. team for the World University Games in 1974 will be held Sunday, July 1st, at the Exhibition Hall.

ARIZONA HOSTS 1973 NATIONALS
by Mike Snell

Chairman, Organizing Comm.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS: All of the following hotels and inns are within easy walking distance of the fencing site, two to six blocks, except where specifically noted. All the rates quoted are subject to Arizona's 7% motel tax and all rates are special for the fencing Nationals. As a result the cut-off rate for reservations is June 10, 1973. All units, except Motel Six, have dining and bar facilities, room service, etc. To assist yourself and the motels, please indicate on your reservation request, date and time of arrival. Air travelers should indicate, in addition to date and time, flight number and name of airline, especially for those hotels providing free airport pick-up. Please indicate on reservation request SECOND and THIRD choices. Each motel will cooperate, make other reservations, if necessary, and notify you at once.

SPECIAL NOTICE: The University of Arizona has just made one of their dormitories available at special rates for matriculated college students. For information and reservations write at once to Steve Gerstine, Box 12771, Tucson, Az, 85711.

HEADQUARTERS HOTEL: Sheraton Pueblo Inn. 350 S. Freeway. Polo - Jacuzzi Bath - Shuffleboard - Sauna Bath - TV - Billiards Single \$15.00 - Double \$17.00 (One room - two occupants), Double \$20.00 Two double beds - two, three or four occupants. Free airport pick-up, Direct phone at terminal, 7 A.M.-11 P.M. Reservations: Toll-free: (800) 325-3535. 60 Rooms available.

DESERT INN, 1N. Freeway - Pool - T.V. - 70 Rooms available - Single \$14.00 - Two occupants \$16.00. Rooms with double-double beds - \$4.00 ea. for four - 4.50 ea. for three. Free airport pick-up.

MOTEL SIX, 310 S. Freeway - Pool - Pay TV. Single \$6.60 - Double \$7.70 - Triple \$8.80 - Quadruple \$9.90. Reservations held until 6 P.M. only. No airport service, no checks or credit cards. Nice, economical, minimum service.

SANDS MOTEL, 222 So. Freeway - TV. Single \$13.00 - Two occupants \$17.00 - Two beds \$19.00. Extra persons in rooms

with two beds, 3.00 extra per person. Free airport pick-up.

TUCSON INN, 127 W. Drachman St. - Pool - TV. Approximately 1½ miles from fencing site. Single \$8.00 - Two occupants \$10.00 - Two double beds \$11.00 any occupancy. Extra Rollaway beds \$2.00 ea. Cribs \$1.00 ea. AirPorter Service (Charge).

RAMADA INN, St. Mary's Road at Freeway. Approximately ½ mile from fencing site. Singles \$11.00-13.00 - Doubles \$13.00-15.00 - Twin/dble \$18.00-20.00. 24 hour coffee shop - Pool - TV - Children's Playground - Shuffleboard. Airport service uncertain.

GALA NIGHT: On Saturday evening, June 13th, Tucson will put the finishing touches to a week of its famous hospitality with a barbecue, beer, dancing and swimming at the Rancho Corona, site of the Tucson International celebrations. All registered fencers at the Nationals will receive a ticket to the evening's activities in their hospitality folders and others may purchase tickets during the week of the Nationals at the Hospitality desk.

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AMATEUR FENCERS LEAGUE OF AMERICA
ENTRY FORM: 1973 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Name (Please Print) Division
Street Address Birth Date
City, State, Zip Code Club Affiliation
AFLA Membership # Section

A. REGISTRATION FEES (For every fencer in Nationals)

..... Entrant's Registration Fee @ \$7.50 \$.....
..... Registration Fee(s) for each team member not entered
in any other event @ \$7.50/person &.....
(Fill in number of persons)

B. ENTRY FEES (Fill in no. events for each category)

..... Senior Individual Event(s) @ \$12./event \$.....
..... Under-19 Event(s) @ \$7.50/event \$.....
..... Team Event(s) @ \$25./team event \$.....

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: Sum of Registration plus entry fees \$.....
Make Check or Money Order Payable to AFLA-NATIONALS

All entries must be received by May 26th with STAMPED SELF-ADDRESSED Leg (Large) Envelope, entry form and total fees. MAIL TO: Mrs. E. Richards, AFLA, 41 Ave., Newtonville, MA 02160.

"Upon entering these events under the auspices of the AFLA I agree to abide by th of the AFLA as published in the 1970 edition of "Fencing Rules and Manual" and ; ments thereto. I enter at my own risk and release the AFLA and/or their sponsc officials from any liability. The undersigned certifies that the individual for whi entry is submitted is duly qualified to enter the 1973 Nationals and that the indiv 1972-1973 membership dues have been paid."

.....
Parent or Guardian's Signature
for those fencers under 18

.....
Fencer's Signature

ADDRESS CHANGES

by Irwin Bernstein

After every issue of AMERICAN FENCING is mailed, we receive literally **hundreds** of post office notices of undelivered magazines. Each one represents a fencer who has missed that copy of the magazine because we do not have a **correct current address**. In addition, the post office notice frequently does not provide a new address which means that no future mail will reach the fencer unless we are properly instructed.

If you are changing your address, **please** notify the national secretary before the first day of the magazine issue month. For example, to receive your MAY - JUNE issue at a new address, we must receive notice by May 1.

The best of magazines is of no value if we don't know where to address it to you.

Please send all address corrections to:

Irwin F. Bernstein
249 Eton Place
Westfield, New Jersey 07090

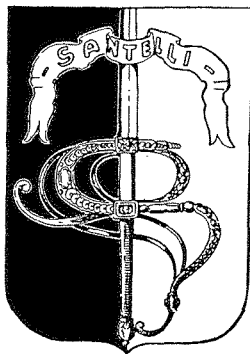


photo by DeVitto

Some of the enthusiastic fencers at South Hills High School in Pittsburgh. From l to r. (first row); Elizabeth Jedrzejska, Cindy Burkhardt, Robin Rawsthorne, Cheryl Skovan, Cheryl Hamilton, (standing), Mara Capuano, Terry Redinger, Luran Plungin, David Leslie, Pat Cotter, Eric DiRicco, Rosemary DeSomma, Christine Burnecka, Ken Sutton, Peter Henry, Tom Rogers, David Henry, Bea Coyne, and Maestro Rebersak.

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AFLA BY-LAW CHANGES

Emily Johnson

Chairman, By-Law Revision Committee

Most of the proposed changes in the By-Laws are non-controversial. These are summarized below and will be presented to the membership for a vote at the time of the annual meeting. Controversial ones — such as a change in the term of office and a new voting procedure in contested elections — will be presented to the membership for discussion at the annual meeting.

ARTICLE IV, Section 3, paragraph 2. The amendment changes the voting age from 21 to 18 and makes certain provisions re receipt of dues by the National Secretary as set out below.

ARTICLE V, Section 6. Payment of dues at the divisional level will permit you to fence but you can't vote in a national election unless your dues have been received by the National Secretary by February 1st.

ARTICLE V, Section 1. In addition to the current class of associate member there are three more classes: Supporting \$12.00 (3 years \$30.00), Contributing \$25.00 (3 years \$60.00), and Class "A" \$50.0 or more (3 years \$12.00). This is not a raise in dues. It is an attempt to encourage contributions. The Division concerned will retain half of these dues.

Certain changes in the organization structure of the AFLA at the national level are proposed. There will be two additional vice-presidents (in addition to the executive vice-president) who will be members of the executive committee. A foreign secretary will be appointed by the President with the consent of the Board of Directors. Sectional Chairmen elected at the sectional level will replace Sectional Vice-Presidents.

We hope that these changes will take some of the burden off the national officers and will increase local autonomy.

To accomplish this we must reword ARTICLE VI, Sections 1, 3, 4 and 7; AR-

TICLE VII, Section 8; ARTICLE XI 3 & 8.

The wording of ARTICLE VII, 9 and ARTICLE IX has been changed for purposes of clarification.

ARTICLE XIII, Section 7 gives vision the right to determine if not from the floor and proxy voting will be permitted in divisional elections.

ARTICLE XIII, Section 11. The Chairman will be elected from a membership of the executive committee of the section and will be a member of the national Board of Directors. The committee is composed of the Chairman of the Divisions in the Section, 1 Director and one other representative each division appointed by the committee of each division. A treasurer will be elected also.

ARTICLE XVI. This provides 15 days notice to the membership of By-law changes rather than 30 days.

ARTICLE XVII. This specifies By-Laws shall be printed in our or mailed to the membership.



TEXT OF PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGES

1. Amend ARTICLE IV Section 3 paragraph 2 as follows:

All members who have paid their dues as specified in these By-Laws on or before the 1st of each fiscal year and who have their 18th birthday as of that date; dues have been received by the National Secretary on or before that date shall have the right to vote on all matters that may be voted on by the Corporation pursuant to these By-Laws to hold any office to which they may be elected or appointed provided that only amateur members elected as officers of the Corporation of admission to membership is determined according to the provisions of Article V.

2. Amend ARTICLE V Section 1 as follows:
Delete "Associate" from "Class of Membership" in both Section 1 and Section 2 following as Section 3 and renumber the following Sections in this Article.

Section 3. Associate Membership Fee. Associate Membership in the Corporation shall be divided into the following categories.

CLASS OF ASSO. MEMBERSHIP	ANNUAL DUES	ANNUAL DUES PREPAID FOR A 3 YEAR PERIOD	
Regular	\$ 3.00	\$ 7.50	
Supporting	12.00	30.00	
Contributing	25.00	60.00	
Class "A"	50.00 (or more)	120.00	

One-half of this fee shall be paid over by the Secretary of the Corporation to the Treasurer of the Division to which the member belongs to be retained by the Division.

3. Amend ARTICLE V Section 6, as follows:

Section 6. A new member is not admitted to membership and an old member is not in good standing until his dues and fees have been received by the Secretary of the Corporation or by a duly authorized agent. Payment of dues to a divisional secretary or other officer or duly appointed agent will render a fencer eligible to fence. However, no person will be eligible to vote in League affairs at the national level until his dues for the fiscal year in which he seeks the right to vote are received by the National Secretary, and only if received by the National Secretary prior to February 1st of that fiscal year.

4. Amend ARTICLE VI, Section 1 to read:

The officers of the Corporation shall consist of a President, an Executive Vice President, two additional Vice Presidents, a Secretary and a Treasurer.

The President shall appoint as Foreign Secretary a member of the Corporation with the consent of the Board of Directors.

5. Amend ARTICLE VI Section 3 to read:

The Executive Vice President and the two additional Vice Presidents shall perform such duties as the President shall delegate to them. They shall be members of the Executive Committee. (See ARTICLE VII, Section 8).

6. Amend ARTICLE VI, Section 4 to read:

In the absence of the President the Executive Vice President shall preside at all meetings of the Corporation and of the Board Directors. In the absence of the President and the Executive Vice President the additional Vice Presidents in order of their seniority (or if of equal service then by drawing lots) shall preside at all meetings of the Corporation and of the Board of Directors.

7. Amend ARTICLE VI, Section 7 to read:

The Foreign Secretary shall conduct all official correspondence of the Corporation addressed to representatives or officers of foreign or international fencing federations or associations; shall report all activities of the F.I.E. and make periodic reports thereon to the president; and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President, the Board of Directors or these By-Laws.

Remember the present Section 7 to Section 8.

8. Amend ARTICLE VII, Section 1 to read:

Responsibility for the general management and policies of the Corporation shall be vested in a

Board of Directors composed of the officers of the Corporation, the Chairman of each Section, the Chairman of each Division of the Corporation and Additional Directors from the Divisions of the number hereinafter specified:

(a) Each Division shall be entitled to one Director for the first seventy-five members (who shall be the Chairman of the division) and an Additional Director for each succeeding seventy-five members or major fraction thereof. Members, for the purpose of entitlement to Additional Directors, shall be members in good standing as of the end of the fiscal year preceding the year in which the Directors take office.

9. Amend ARTICLE VII, Section 8 by adding the words additional Vice Presidents after the words Executive Vice President.

10. Amend ARTICLE IX to read:

Unless otherwise provided for in these By-Laws or in the Pennsylvania Non-Profit Corporation Law, procedure at meetings and procedure relating to contested elections shall be governed by the provisions of Roberts Rules of Order.

11. Amend ARTICLE XI Section 3 to substitute the words additional Vice Presidents for the words Sectional Vice President. Omit the last paragraph of this Section.

12. Amend ARTICLE XI, Section 8 to substitute the words additional Vice Presidents for the words Sectional Vice Presidents.

13. Amend ARTICLE XIII Section 7 as follows:

At the Annual Meeting of the Division there shall be elected a Chairman, one or more Vice-Chairmen, Secretary, Treasurer (or Secretary-Treasurer) Additional Directors and members of the Executive Committee. The castings of ballots for officers, directors and members of the executive committee may be made in person or by proxy and nominations from the floor at the time of meeting may be made unless the By-Laws of the Division specify to the contrary.

14. Amend ARTICLE XIII Section 11 as follows:

The management of a Section shall be vested in an Executive Committee composed of the Chairmen of the Divisions which comprise the Section, one other representative from each Division and any Additional Directors from a Division in the Section. The additional representative shall be appointed by the executive committee of each Division. The Executive Committee shall elect from among its membership a Chairman and a Secretary-Treasurer. The Chairman of the Section shall be a member of the National Board of Directors but will not be entitled to more than one vote. He shall within the time specified by the Secretary of the Corporation file with the Secretary of the Corporation a report of the finances and activities of his Section for the year.

15. Amend ARTICLE XVI as follows:

These By-Laws may be amended at any annual meeting of the Corporation or at any special meeting of the Corporation called for that purpose by a vote of the majority of those

present in person or by proxy. Voting at such meeting is subject to the provisions of Section 7 of ARTICLE XI of these By-Laws. Notice of any proposed amendment setting forth its general tenor shall be given by publication or by direct mailing to all voting members of the League at least ninety days in advance of the meeting.

16. Amend ARTICLE XVII by adding the words "by publication in the official publication of the Corporation or by direct mailing" at the end of the third sentence after the word "members".

NOMINATIONS

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Mrs. Barbi Lare, has reported the following nominations for national offices for the 1973-74 season:

President: Stephen Sobel

Executive Vice-President: William Goering

Sectional Vice-President (Metropolitan):

Csaba Gall

Sectional Vice-President (North Atlantic):

Carla Richards

Sectional Vice-President (Mid-Atlantic):

Dan Lyons

Sectional Vice-President (Mid West): Bill

Seiller

Sectional Vice-President (Southeast): Ronald

Brown

Sectional Vice-President (Se
Spencer Johnson

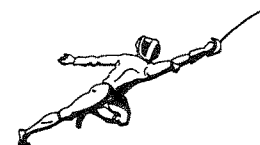
Sectional Vice-President (Rock
ain): Gerrie Baumgart

Sectional Vice-President (Paci
Romary

Secretary: Irwin Bernstein

Treasurer: Peter Tishman

Additional nominations may be petition received by the Secretar AFLA by May 1, 1973 under the of the AFLA By-Laws, Article XI 28 of the 1970 Operations Manua



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PROXY FOR ANNUAL MEETING SOLICITED ON BEHALF OF NATIONAL OFFICERS

The undersigned hereby appoints Stephen B. Sobel, William A. Goering, and Irwin stein, or any of them, in his stead, attorneys and proxies to vote with all powers which signed would possess if personally present at the Annual Meeting (including all adjournment of members of the Amateur Fencers League of America, Inc. to be held on **Tues., June** at 8:00 P.M. in Tucson, Arizona at the site of the National Fencing Championships, as fc

1. On the proposed changes in the By-Laws as printed:

..... For all changes as proposed.

..... Against all changes as proposed.

..... For all changes **except** those listed below

2. Upon other business as may properly come before the meeting, or an adjournm

This proxy shall be voted as directed, and if no direction to the contrary is indicated, i voted for all changes to the By-Laws.

PLEASE SIGN HERE IF OVER 21. (I hereby certify that I have attained my 21st birthda eligible to vote).

Signed Date

PLEASE SIGN HERE IF OVER 18 AND UNDER 21. (I hereby certify that I have attained birthday and will be eligible to vote if the voting age is changed to 18 years).

Signed Date

SEND PROXY TO: Irwin F. Bernstein, 249 Eton Place, Westfield, N. J. 07090

SPECIAL NOTE ON PROXY FORM

It is anticipated that the by-law provision reducing the voting age to 18 will be pass membership meeting. In order to enable those over 18 to vote on all other business at th this by-law provision will be the first item of business voted on, to be effective in the proxy form has been specially designed for these members over 18 to vote on all business after the voting age is reduced.

QUICKIE QUIZ

May a competitor acknowledge a touch after the Director has decided not to award it? (See Para. 606, page 104 of the 1970 Rules Book).

CONTRIBUTORS PLEASE NOTE

All contributions to American Fencing should be typed double spaced on one side of the paper only, and with wide margins. Please be sure to leave plenty of room for a headline and to include the byline of the contributor. Notices of competitions should be sent in well in advance, preferably in the beginning of the season. Results of local competitions should be prepared as printed in American Fencing.

KENDO CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Second Annual International Kendo Championships will be held from April 6 to 11 in Los Angeles, California. For more information contact the Kendo Federation of the United States, 102 South San Pedro Street, Los Angeles, Cal., 90012.

OFFICIALS PINS

The U.S. Commission of Fencing Rules and Officials has authorized an official U.S. pin for rated Directors. The attractive blue and gold lapel pin is in the shape of a shield. Any Commission rated official is eligible to wear the new pin, and should contact Denise O'Connor, 21A West 35 Street, Bayonne, New Jersey, 07002. The pins cost \$1.00 each.

AMENDMENTS TO 1972-73 AFLA DIRECTORY

CHAIRMEN AND ADDITIONAL DIRECTORS:

- 09 Connecticut: Burton Moore, 8 Pin Oak Lane, Westport, Conn., 06889
47 West New York: Virginia Barons, 24 Clinton Ave., Bergen, N. Y., 14416
David Nellis, 93 East Parkway, Victor, N. Y. 14564
58 Alabama: John R. Jordan, 10103 Todd Mill Rd., Huntsville, Ala. 35803
60 Louisiana: Larry D. Ward, LSA Station Box 22002, Baton Rouge, La. 70803

SECRETARIES:

- 13 Gateway Florida: Bruce Cohen, 999 NE 167, N. Miami Beach, Fla. 33162
15 Georgia: Carol Hoge, 147 Hunt Road Athens, Ga. 30601
38 Oregon: Brenda Ellis, 2221 SE 117, Portland, Ore. 97216
56 So. Texas: Alfred Marsch, 173 Barilla Pl., San Antonio, Tex. 78209

Send change of address on Form 42578 to