

## **ASIAN REFEREES' LICENSE**

### **Background:**

Being the governing body of the sport of fencing in the world, the FIE has the authority and responsibility of organizing official international competitions. Attendant to this responsibility, the FIE must ensure that such competitions are organized and conducted fairly and efficiently so as to safeguard the integrity of the results and the wellbeing of the athletes, and thus promote international goodwill and image of fencing.

To ensure that only qualified referees are designated to preside in official competitions, the FIE provides seminars, conducts examinations, and grants licenses to deserving referees. Current FIE Rules provide that qualified referees are given "B" license for each weapon which the said referee has proven to be qualified. Other referees who need further evaluation after an exam, is given a "P" license and would be required to pass an "observation test" done during an actual competition. (It is believed however that "P" licenses will be discontinued in the future).

As currently practiced by the FIE, one official Referees' Exam is scheduled in each continent every year. Interested individuals who wish to take the Exam, are endorsed by their respective federations to the FIE Referees Commission. A maximum of 15 candidates per weapon are accepted.

It has been experienced however that: 1) there is a greater number of individuals wanting to take the exam, more than the maximum that can be accepted, 2) candidates are not "pre-screened" to ensure that only deserving individuals are accepted, and 3) as there are many local/national and regional fencing competitions not in the program and direct control of the FIE/FCA, organizers make use of local/national referees with no FIE licenses

### **Introduction:**

To partly address the above mentioned concerns, the FIE plans to implement a new procedure starting in 2017, whereby candidates to be accepted for the FIE Referees Exam MUST have the endorsement of the Confederations. In so doing, the Confederations are expected to pre-screen and select interested individuals who would be recommended to the FIE Referees Commission. Only those endorsed by the Confederation will therefore be accepted as candidates.

While this process would streamline the selection of candidates for FIE Referees' Exam, it however does not address the need to develop more qualified referees especially for local/national and regional fencing competitions.

Objectives:

1. To increase and develop qualified fencing referees in Asia by conducting programs such as seminars, observation tests, and examinations
2. To establish a system of granting “C” licenses to qualified Asian referees
3. To devise a process of selecting deserving C licensed Asian referees who would be endorsed to take the FIE Referees Exams

Procedure:

1. Every year, the FCA will evaluate local/national referees who have no FIE license, in order to determine who deserve to be given “C” Referee License.
2. To be entitled to a “C” Referee License, an individual must:
  - a. Pass the FCA Referees Exam convincingly, or
  - b. Pass the FCA Referees Exam provisionally, then pass the FCA Observation Test in a regional competition, or
  - c. Pass the FCA Observation Test in a regional competition convincingly.
3. Every year, the FCA will identify regional fencing competitions that will serve as “Observation Tests” for local/national referees without FIE licenses
4. The FCA will identify and designate experienced FIE Referees from Asia who will be conduct the Observation Tests and the FCA Referees Exams.
5. Before the schedule of an FIE Referees Exam in Asia, interested “C” licensed referees will submit their application to the FCA Referees Commission, who will evaluate and select those who would be endorsed to take the FIE Referees Exam.
6. The FCA will allocate a reasonable amount to cover the expenses for this program