



15 February 2016

Dear Federations, Clubs and Fencers,

INVITATION

The Fencing Confederation of Asia is pleased to invite you to the second "Asian Masters Championships", to be held in conjunction with the Australian Fencing Federation.

The competition will be held in the coastal city of Perth, Western Australia, from 27th to 30th August 2016 at the Claremont Showgrounds – Ellie Eaton Pavilion. We look forward to all Masters fencers from our Asian neighbours being able to compete in this event.

We will be joined for this event by Masters fencers from the Oceania Fencing Confederation, so expect this to be a significant event in the calendar of Masters fencers in the region.

Details of the competition can be found in the following pages. If you need further details, please contact us at the following:

Operations Director: (+61) 413 487 640 Contact email: operations@fencing.org.au

Thank you.

Yours truly,

Andrew lus President Australian Fencing Federation

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Celso Deyrit President Fencing Confederation of Asia





COMPETITION DETAILS

1. Date:

The tournament will be held from Saturday 27th to Tuesday 30th August, 2016, approximately two weeks after the end of the fencing events that form part of the 2016 Olympics in Rio.

2. Location:

The competition will be held in the coastal city of Perth on the South-West Coast of Western Australia.

<u>Perth</u>, the capital city of the State of Western Australia, enjoys a Mediterranean Climate and one of the most enviable outdoor lifestyles in the world.

Western Australia shares a common time zone with much of Asia and Perth is geographically a similar distance to key Asian cities such as Jakarta (3,000km) and Singapore (3,900km) as it is to major Australian cities such as Sydney (3,300km) or Brisbane (3,600km).

Perth enjoys a relaxed, cosmopolitan atmosphere, and a wide variety of food and entertainment options. Western Australia also offers a varied range of post- competition holiday destinations. From the sub-tropical wilderness in the North West, to one of the planet's largest fringing reefs on the Coral Coast; from an arid desert landscape in its Golden Outback, to one of the world's biodiversity hotspots in the South West.

Western Australia shares strong trade links and close cultural ties with Asia. The Western Australian Government operates trade offices in Beijing, Mumbai, Jakarta and Singapore, and significant exports include Iron Ore, Liquefied Natural Gas, food and agricultural products and education services.

More information about Western Australia can be found at <u>http://www.westernaustralia.com/au/Pages/Welcome_to_Western_Australia.aspx</u> and key trade and economic background can be found at <u>http://www.dsd.wa.gov.au/</u>

3. Organiser:

The tournament organiser is the Australian Fencing Federation ("AFF"), with the support of, and in conjunction with the Fencing Confederation of Asia ("FCA") and can be contacted via email: <u>operations@fencing.org.au</u>.

4. Event Web Site:

The AFF's web site is <u>www.fencing.org.au</u>. All competition information, announcements, results, etc. will be available on this website, in a special section





dedicated to the Masters event. A dedicated web site will be available for the event, <u>www.asianmasters.org</u>.

5. Venue:

The venue will be the Ellie Eaton Pavilion at the Claremont Showgrounds, which is located in the Perth suburb of Claremont.



The venue can be accessed from Gate 1 or Gate 2 on Graylands Road. The venue, including the grounds, is a strictly no alcohol and no smoking area.

6. Competition Schedule:

The following is the proposed schedule for tournament events. Event times for each day will be published to the AFF web site in <u>February 2016</u>.

<u>Friday – 26 August</u> Team Managers & Referees Meeting





<u>Saturday – 27 August</u> Men's Epee Individual Women's Foil Individual

<u>Sunday – 28 August</u> Men's Sabre Individual Women's Epee Individual

<u>Monday – 29 August</u> Men's Foil Individual Women's Sabre Individual Men's Epee Team & Team Shield Women's Foil Team & Team Shield

<u>Tuesday – 30 August</u> Men's Sabre Team & Team Shield Women's Epee Team & Team Shield Men's Foil Team & Team Shield Women's Sabre Team & Team Shield

7. Participants

There is no limit on the number of fencers that may enter from each country. Fencers entering the Masters events must represent federations in Asia only and must satisfy any one of the following conditions:

1. Hold an FIE License of an Asian Country, or

2. Hold a Passport, Residence Card, or Identity Card of an Asian country, or

3. For Expatriates living in an Asian country, must be endorsed by and represent the National federation of the country they reside in.

Age Categories

Male

40 – 49 : Category A (born in years 1967 to 1976)

50 – 59 : Category B (born in years 1957 to 1966)

60 – 69 : Category C (born in years 1947 to 1956)

70 plus : Category D (born in years 1946 or earlier)

Female

35 – 49 : Category A (born in years 1967 to 1981)

50 – 59 : Category B (born in years 1957 to 1966)

60 - 69 : Category C (born in years 1947 to 1956)

70 plus : Category D (born in years 1946 or earlier)





Team Events

Each country/federation can enter no more than two official teams in each gender per weapon whose combined age for the youngest three fencers nominated, are:

- a) a minimum of 135 years old total, for men
- b) a minimum of 120 years old total, for women

Every competitor who is not selected for the official team for their country, or whose country does not have sufficient competitors to form a team can nominate to be part of a "Shield" team. The Masters Shield will be a social competition where the team members are determined by the DT in order to balance total rankings / ages across each team.

8. Entries and Fees

All entries must be made by individual fencers from all countries using the AFF's online registration system, commencing from 14 June 2016, with entries closing on 10 August 2016. This is a fully-automated registration system which accepts debit card, credit card, or Paypal payment at the time of registration in AUD. No cash or bank transfer options are available.

Team registrations will also be made online, and paid for if desired through the same means. However, alternative payment arrangements will be possible for these team registrations.

Countries will be required to provide entry by number information (only) by 25 July 2016.

Organisers, team managers, and athletes are able to view all event entries as soon as they are made via a publicly-available web page.

Competitors may enter multiple events (both by weapon and age group). Fees are as follows:

- Master individual event entries are \$A100 for one event, or \$A123 for two or three events
- Team entries are \$A172 per event

9. Competition Rules

The fencing tournament events will be conducted in accordance with the current Statutes and Rules of the FIE, qualified by the Australian rules as found on the AFF web site <u>www.fencing.org.au</u>, under the Competitions menu, Competition Rules & Policies option. The Directoire Technique shall deal with any unforeseen incidents not covered by the Rules.

Specific Tournament Rules – Individual Events

There will be one round of Poules, after which a Direct Elimination by Gender, weapon and age Categories. All Poules will be for 5 touches per bout or 3 minutes and Direct Eliminations shall be for 10 touches, or 2 rounds of 3 minutes each.





If there are of five or more fencers in each gender, weapon and age category, they will have Poules by themselves for ranking, then Direct Elimination for placing and awards.

If there are less than five fencers in a gender, weapon and age category, they will be grouped in Poules with the next younger age category, for ranking, then DE by age category for placing and awards.

If there are only one or two fencers in a gender, weapon and age category, they will be grouped in MIXED (men and women together) Poules, for ranking, then re-grouped for DE or fenced-off among fencers per gender, weapon and age category, for placing and awards.

The DT may, with the agreement of an FCA Masters Council representative, and all affected fencers, vary this format where it would create a competition format not in the spirit of inclusiveness and participation.

10. Equipment

All equipment used must pass standard weapon and equipment tests as prescribed by the FIE, subject to AFF qualifications as found on the AFF web site <u>www.fencing.org.au</u>, under the Documents and Policies menu, All Documents and Policies option, Weapon Control Policy article. All equipment must be submitted for weapons testing individually by athletes and marked by the organisers before it can be used in the competition.

Weapons control will be available in the evening of 24th August, and the evening of 26th August, in addition to one hour prior to each event.

Mandatory protective clothing requirements are found on the AFF web site <u>www.fencing.org.au</u>, under Competitions menu, Equipment Requirements option. Note that female fencers without chest protectors will not be permitted to fence.

11. Competition Management

Referees

Countries should bring referee(s) at their expenses in the following ratio:

- a. 0-4 entries: no need to provide referee.
- b. 5-9 entries: 1 referees
- c. 10-18 entries: 2 referees
- d. 19 and over entries: 3 referees

For countries not able to fulfill this obligation, a levy will be charged, with the amount of this levy to be determined at a later date. For the purposes of referee requirement calculations, if a fencer enters three events, this is counted as three entries. Where countries offer the services of referees over and above the requirements above, or where referees make themselves available for non-Masters events from 25-28 August, the arranger will negotiate separately with that country for a reimbursement and per diem for those referees to be paid for out of any refereeing levies charged.





Referees must be properly attired in jacket / blazer and long pants. They are to be on duty under the assignment of the Directoire Technique throughout the competition, or as requested.

Directoire Technique (DT)

The DT shall be responsible for the technical organisation of the competition. The AFF operates and supports the En Garde fencing competition management software.

The members of the DT will be appointed by the AFF. The decision of the DT shall be final.

Protests

Appeals against decisions of a referee should be immediately made by the competitors (only) in individual events, or team captains in team events, to the referee, who will bring the complaint to the attention of the DT.

12. Medals and Prizes

Medals will be awarded to the first, second and equal third places in each event. In some events, medals are awarded to fifth to eighth places, or for specific age categories.

Medal presentations will be made approximately 15 minutes after the conclusion of each event.

Detailed information may be found in the AFF's National Competition Policy document, to be found on the AFF web site <u>www.fencing.org.au</u>, under the Competitions menu, Competition Rules & Policies option.

The Australian Fencing Federation will also award a "Master of Arms" trophy for the competitor adjudged by DT to have achieved the best results across his or her age category in all three weapons.

13. Transport and Accommodation

Competitors will need to arrange their own transport and accommodation.

By car/taxi

The venue is approximately 25km (35 minutes) from Perth Airport, and approximately 10km (15 minutes) from the Perth city centre – approximately \$A30 by taxi.

By train

The venue is also serviced by the nearby "Claremont" train station (which is on the Freemantle line – note that the "Showgrounds" station will not be accessible during the competition dates). The travel time from Perth city to Claremont station via train is about 25 minutes, and the return fare is less than \$A10. The walk from Claremont station to the venue is 500m.





Accommodation

There are no accommodation options immediately near the venue. However, as well as citybased accommodation, the venue is approximately 5km from the coast, a popular West Australian tourist location, where there are a number of hotel and similar accommodation options.

14. Visa Assistance

All people entering Australia must possess valid passports; participants are recommended to check with their local Australian Embassies for visa applications before traveling. Further information about obtaining a tourist visa to Australia can be found on the Australian Government web site: <u>https://www.border.gov.au/Trav/Visi</u>.

Competitors (and people who may be accompanying them) who require a formal invitation for their own Country's visa regulations will need to request same as soon as possible via email to <u>secretary@fencing.org.au</u>.

15. Language

The official language for the competition is English.

16. Pre-event Training

International fencers are very welcome to train in Western Australia prior to or after the event. A list of clubs will be available on the event website, and clubs are located at a number of suburbs around the Perth city.

17. Social Gathering

Dinner

It is expected that there will be an optional tournament dinner for competitors and their guests on Sunday 28 August at 7:00pm at a restaurant in a nearby suburb.

Tour

There may be the opportunity to conduct an organised tourist day trip should there be sufficient interest among competitors. This will be established at the time of event entry through a registration question.

18. Branded Merchandise

There will be branded event t-shirts available for pre-order at the time of registration or purchase in cash at the event.





19. General Information

Currency

Australia's unit of currency is the Australia Dollar (AUD). Foreign currency can be exchanged freely at selected banks, most large hotels, and the airport. The current exchange rate (January 2016) is approximately AUD 1.45 for USD 1.00. Major credit cards are widely accepted in most places.

Weather

The weather in Perth during late August tends to be mild and occasionally rainy, with a daily average temperature range of 10°C to 22°C.

Water & Electricity

It is safe to drink water straight from the tap in Perth. However, for those who prefer bottled mineral water, any supermarket will have ample stocks.

Australia's voltage is 220-240 volts AC, 50 Hz. The power plugs used in Australia are unique to Australia, and adapters may be purchased at the airport or at many outdoor clothing and outfitters stores.

Health and Safety

Current information on health and safety while travelling in Australia can be found here: http://www.lonelyplanet.com/australia/practical-information/health

Tipping

Tipping in restaurants is not necessary, but certainly appreciated, 10% for good service is the usual figure. In bars and taxis, tipping is also not expected, although many people simply leave some of their coin change on the bar after picking up their drink, or tell the cabbie to "keep the change". Tipping in hotels is uncommon, though a small tip for carrying cases to a room would be fairly normal.

Smoking & Drinking

Smoking in almost all public places is against the law and subject to a fine. Smoking is also prohibited in all covered areas, including shopping centres, restaurants, cafes and bars (some have set up special smoking areas).

The legal drinking age in Australia is 18, and the consumption of alcohol on public transport and in some other controlled areas is prohibited.





20. Australian Fencing Circuit #3 Individual and Club Tournament

During the period Thursday 25th to Sunday 28th August, the Australian Fencing Circuit #3 (FCA3) "Open" and "Club Teams" events will take place at the same venue as the Oceania Veterans Championships, and is open to international competitors of all ages, and we therefore invite Asian Masters to participate if they wish in these events.

Schedule

The following is the proposed schedule for tournament events. Event times for each day will be published to the AFF web site in <u>February 2016</u>.

<u>Thursday – 25 August</u> Open Women's Foil Open Men's Sabre Club Teams: Women's Foil Club Teams: Men's Sabre

<u>Friday – 26 August</u> Open Men's Epee Open Women's Sabre Club Teams: Men's Epee Club Teams: Women's Sabre

<u>Saturday – 27 August</u> Open Men's Foil Open Women's Epee

<u>Sunday – 28 August</u> Club Teams: Men's Foil Club Teams: Women's Epee

Entry Costs

Competitors may enter multiple events (both by weapon and age group). Fees are as follows:

- Club Team entries are \$A172 per event
- Open event individual entries are \$A100 per event (Late Entry: \$197 per event if entry is made on or after 11 August 2016)