

## Excerpt from FIE Rules on Injuries

FIE rules – British Fencing Association (taken from BFA website)

Book 1. Technical Rules (December 2017 update)

Chapter 5 – Fencing

Section t.45 - Injuries, withdrawal of a competitor. Injury or cramp, withdrawal of a competitor

1. For an injury or cramp or other acute medical incident which occurs in the course of a bout and which is properly attested by the delegate of the FIE Medical Commission or, in his absence, by the doctor on duty, the Referee will allow a break in the fight lasting no longer than 5 minutes. This break should be timed from the point when the delegate of the FIE Medical commission or, in his absence, the doctor gave his opinion and be strictly reserved for the requisite treatment. If the delegate of the FIE Medical Commission or, in his absence, the doctor on duty considers, before or at the end of the 5 minute break, that the fencer is incapable of continuing the fight, he will decide that the fencer should retire (individual events) and/or be replaced, if possible (team events) (cf. o.99.6.a/b).

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All breaks for injury or cramp must be noted on the score-sheet for the bout, the pool or the match.

Application: from season 2018-2019, so that the softwares can be modified.

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2. During the remainder of the same day, a fencer cannot be allowed a further break unless as a result of a different injury or cramp or acute medical incident.
  3. Should a fencer demand a break which is deemed by the delegate of the Medical Commission or, in his absence, by the doctor on duty to be unjustified, the Referee will penalise that fencer as specified in Articles t.158-162, t.166, t.170.
  4. In team events a fencer judged unable to continue the bout by the delegate of the FIE Medical Commission or, in his absence, by the doctor on duty may, nevertheless, on the advice of the same delegate of the FIE Medical Commission / doctor, fight in subsequent matches on the same day.

Book 2. Organisation rules

Part C – Procedures during Competitions

Chapter 1. Formulae

Team Competitions

A. Senior and Junior World Championships, Zonal Championships

Section o.99.5

- a) In the course of a match the captain of a team may ask to substitute for a fencer the reserve nominated before the start of the match. This substitution may only be made at the end of a bout. However, the fencer who has been replaced may fence one more time during that match, but only to replace the fencer who originally substituted him. This second replacement is not allowed if the first replacement has been made for the reasons listed in article o.99.6. No further substitution for a fencer on the piste is allowed, even in the case of an accident or unavoidable circumstances. The announcement that a fencer is to be substituted must be made at the latest before the beginning of the bout preceding the next bout of the fencer

who is to be replaced and must be reported by the Referee to the opposing team captain. At World Championships and Olympic Games, the referee must also report this immediately to the Directoire Technique.

- b) If an accident occurs in the bout which follows the request for a substitution, the team captain may annul that request.
- c) If the captain of the opposing team has also requested a substitution, this substitution may be implemented or cancelled.

#### Section o.99.6

- a) If a member of a team is obliged to retire during a match as the result of an accident which has been duly recognised by a medical representative of the FIE, the captain of his team may ask to put in a reserve to continue the match at the point where the competitor who was obliged to retire withdrew, even during a bout in progress.
- b) However, a competitor who is thus replaced cannot again take his place in the team during the same match.

#### Section o.99.7

If both a fencer and the reserve, if any, are forced to retire, or if a fencer is excluded, their team has lost the match.