



Frequently Asked Questions on Uniforms and Contest Delays Fencing 2020-21

(This document includes specific USA Fencing references where applicable.)

1. *What words, logos and symbols are allowed on the uniform?*

Name and nationality, in accordance with the Rules, on the back of the jacket. Logos (national strips) are also permitted on the uniform. The manufacturer's logo is permitted.

Note: At the championships final site, for identification purposes, fencers must wear school colors or institutional names that are clearly visible and distinguishable from their opponents. Armbands or socks (both in school colors), or another form of institutional identification (i.e. school name and/or logo), are required. No club patches or country affiliation markings are allowed.

The location of any logos, names or patches should be placed as not to impact scoring. For identification purposes, fencers must wear school colors or institutional names that are clearly visible and distinguishable from their opponents for championships competition. Armbands or socks (both in school colors), or institutional identification, are required. The use of adhesive tape is not an acceptable form of institutional identification. The color on a shoe is not an acceptable form of identification. All team members must be identical in identification.

2. *What size restrictions are there for these?*

Each fencer's last name must be printed by hand or machine in capital letters between 8 and 10 cm high on either. Names printed on tape are not acceptable. The manufacturer's logo or trademark is not to exceed 2 1/4 square inches in area (rectangle, square, parallelogram) including any additional material (e.g., patch) surrounding the normal trademark or logo.

3. *May the required apparel/equipment contain any other words, slogans, messaging, etc.?*

The rules/modifications do not specifically address words, slogans, messaging, etc. on required apparel/equipment. However, please refer to Section 7 "Logo Policy" in the Fencing Pre-Championships Manual for additional information.

4. *Are words, slogans, messaging, etc. allowed on items (e.g., taped wrists) other than required apparel/equipment?*

The rules do not specifically address words, slogans, messaging, etc. on items not required by rule.

5. *How does the unsportsmanlike conduct rule apply?*

All bouts must preserve the character of a courteous and frank encounter. All irregular actions or anti-sporting behavior are strictly forbidden (cf. t.114–t.120). Should such an offense occur, any touch scored by the fencer at fault is annulled.

Before the beginning of each bout, the two fencers must perform a fencer's salute to their opponent, to the Referee and to the spectators. Equally, when the final touch has been scored, the bout has not ended until the two fencers have saluted each other, the Referee and the spectators: to this end, they must remain still while the Referee is making his decision; when he has given his decision, they must return to their on guard line, perform a fencer's salute and shake hands with their opponent. If either or both of the two fencers refuse to comply with these rules, the Referee will penalize him/them as specific for offenses of the 4th group (cf. t.114, t.119, t.120).

During or after a bout, even if the fencer has already left the strip, any act against the spirit of sportsmanship such as violently or dangerously throwing one's mask (or any other piece of equipment) will be penalized as specified in Article t.119 (cf. t.82.1, 2 and 3).

6. *What are the rules about uniform colors for opposing teams?*

Fencers' clothing may be of different colors, apart from black. However, the rules do not specifically address uniform colors for opposing teams.

7. *What is the rule regarding refusal to play?*

No fencer (individual or team) may take part in an official competition if he refuses to fence against any other fencer whatsoever (individual or team) correctly entered in the event. Should this rule be broken, the penalties specified for offenses of the 4th group will be applied (cf. t.114, t.119, t.120).

Any fencer who attempts improperly to cause or to prolong interruptions to the bout is penalized as specified in Articles t.114, t.116, t.120 of the USA Fencing Rules.

8. *“Are there any playing rules that specify protocols for student-athletes and/or coaches during the national anthem?”*

No. Participants should be allowed to express their opinions (e.g., kneeling during the national anthem) as long as the action does not delay or disrupt competition.

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