

Equipment requirements

Helsinki Longsword Open 2018

1. Protection

All fencers are responsible for their own equipment being functional and meeting the tournament rules. Equipment needs to be intact and in good general condition.

The equipment checks that take place during the tournament are only to help the organizer to monitor the compliance to the regulations and aid fencers to comply with them. Equipment checks may not be invoked to eliminate fencers' responsibility in the case of a violation of requirements.

Fencers are to dress professionally and in a manner appropriate to a serious tournament. Loose sweatpants, college trousers or similar are inappropriate. Clothes and gear must overlap: skin must not be exposed at any time.

Seconds are to be dressed in a professional way, preferably in club clothing or jacket and dress shirt/blouse, but it is permitted for fencers in gear to coach other fencers.

The following equipment is mandatory for all fencers:

- Mask
- Throat guard
- Protective jacket
- Gloves
- Elbow and knee guards
- Shin guards
- Shoes
- Athletic cup (men only)

Use of additional protective gear is allowed and encouraged.

Metal protection, aside from the mask mesh and athletic cup, is not permitted.

No bare skin may be exposed, except for the palms of the hands, when the fencer stands in any guard.

Throat guards, athletic cup and optional chest protectors are to be worn under the outermost layer of clothing.

1.1. Mask

The mask must be in good condition, with no tears or large dents. The mask must fit the fencer; a mask that comes off too easily will be disallowed. The mask must include a protection for the back of the head.

1.2 Throat guard

The throat guard must be reasonably rigid and constructed so that it will stop a thrust from a broken blade.

1.3 Protective jacket

The protective jacket must be reasonably padded and constructed so that it will stop a thrust from a broken blade. Jackets with armpit holes or jackets that are open in the front are not allowed.

1.4 Gloves

Gloves must protect all fingers, the back of the hand and the wrist.

For longsword we require sturdy gloves with a high level of protection.

We recommend Sparring gloves, Black Lance, Neyman, Koenig gloves, Leon Paul hema gloves (V2.0) or SPES heavy gloves. Lacrosse and Red Dragon etc light gloves are not allowed in the longsword but are accepted in the singlestick tournament.

1.5 Elbow and knee guards

Elbow and knee guards must also protect the side of the joint and should not displace too easily.

1.6 Shin guards

Shin guards must protect the shinbone from the knee guard down, more or less, all the way to the foot.

1.7 Shoes

Shoes must enclose all toes. Hardened (such as steel) soles or caps are not allowed.

1.8 Athletic cup

The athletic cup must be reasonably rigid and may be metal.

2. Weapons

Weapons for all tournaments, including single stick are provided by the organizer. Both longsword tournaments will be fenced with a standard feder.

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