

# SWORDMASTER

## ARTISTIC FENCING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

### REGULATION

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#### 1. Description

Swordmaster is the event promoted by the Académie d'Armes Internationale, structured as a competition, with the aim of proclaiming the World champions of artistic fencing.

Artistic fencing is a discipline based on the performance of pre-ordained cold steel weapons combat choreographies, accompanied by the technical direction (dialogue, music, scenery), using weapons and technics always inspired by the tradition of fencing.

Artistic fencing performers equip, dress themselves and perform in their own way, under their own responsibility and at their own risk.

The safety measures set out in these regulations, without the organizers are not able to guarantee the safety of the athletes, neither are the organizers of the events, the authors of the regulations, of the authors of these Regulations, of possible accidents.

Participants must have at least a personal insurance.

The performers (single or team) participate in the competition to provide their best artistic performances.

Performers can use any type of weapon historically existing or existed and any type of fantasy weapon, but they cannot use simple work tools or accessories of any kind or nature (cutlery, scissors, screwdrivers, saws, chairs, bottles, musical instruments, etc.).

The weapons used must be free of sharp points and sharp edges.

The festival is attended by 4 Judges of different nationalities, experts of known and proven credibility in the world of artistic fencing and entertainment, chosen and considered suitable by the AAI Direction Committee.

Swordmaster is developed in three different phases (rounds), which take place over three days:

- 1) First elimination round;
- 2) Second elimination round;
- 3) Final round.

The 4 Judges evaluate the technical and artistic qualities of the candidates in the First elimination round and therefore their suitability to be selected for the following rounds, comment and vote (one vote per capita) the performances.

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The evaluations, opinions and votes of each Judge, anywhere expressed are taken at their absolute discretion and cannot be appealed.

The pieces of music (published and / or unpublished) that will accompany the performances, the use of any supports, backing tracks, accompanying musicians, are reserved for the discretionary choice and evaluation of the participants.

The competition ground consists of a flat area of regular shape of at least 100 square meters, equipped with theatrical lighting system.

The stopwatch to calculate the performance duration must be clearly visible to Judges, performers and public.

During the event, at least one service doctor and first aid equipment must always be present.

## **2. Qualifications**

The qualifications of those who want to participate in Swordmaster are an integral part of the competition and are preliminary to it.

No later than 120 days before the date of the First elimination round, all those who wish to participate in Swordmaster must send the link to the YouTube platform relating to their demonstration performance to [info@aai.world](mailto:info@aai.world) , which must not exceed at 120 seconds and will have to reproduce one of their performances, with a single shot and without video editing.

The AAI Direction Committee, with the collaboration of experts, masters of artistic fencing, will select up to a maximum of 80 participants, giving official notification on the site [www.aai.world](http://www.aai.world) no later than 90 days before the date of first elimination round.

The mandatory criteria to be followed by the AAI Direction Committee for selection are the following:

- 1) each category of artistic fencing (solo, ensemble, duel, battle) must be represented, up to a maximum of 20 participants per category;
- 2) for each category up to a maximum of two participants from the same nation can participate, accredited by the respective National Academies, or representing their nationality, in the absence of the National Academy on their territory;
- 3) each candidate must present a membership card to a National Academy or in any case to have a personal insurance covering injuries and civil liability for damages to third parties.

Without prejudice to the criteria described in the previous paragraph, the qualifications are determined at the absolute discretion of the AAI Direction Committee and cannot be appealed.

The categories of artistic fencing are:

- 1) Solo: fighting against an imaginary opponent or training in preparation for a fight.
- 2) Ensemble: fighting against an imaginary opponent or training in preparation for a fight, performed in a group, both at the same time and in a cascade.
- 3) Duel: combat performed by two people.
- 4) Battle: combat performed by three or more people.

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### **3. First elimination round (first day)**

Those who pass the qualification phase, perform in front of the 4 judges, again with a performance of a maximum duration of 120 seconds.

The entry order of the performances will be cast by lot.

The performances in front of the Judges can be performed in the presence of the public and the candidates perform, bringing with them everything they expect to see (props, "effects", music, costumes, etc.).

Each Judge expresses his opinion on the artistic qualities of the candidate and, therefore, on his suitability to participate in the next phase.

The candidate, in order to pass this phase, must obtain from the judges at least three positive opinions out of four.

### **4. Second elimination round (second day)**

Those who pass the qualifying phase, perform again in front of the 4 judges, again with a performance of a maximum duration of 120 seconds.

The performances in front of the Judges can be performed in the presence of the public and the candidates perform, bringing with them everything they expect to see (props, "effects", music, costumes, etc.), which can also be different from the first day, but always belonging to the same category (solo, ensemble, duel or battle).

The entry order of the performances will be cast by lot.

Each judge expresses his opinion on the artistic qualities of the candidate and, therefore, on his suitability to participate in the final.

The candidate, in order to pass this phase, must obtain from the Judges four positive opinions out of four.

Among the competitors who performed on the second day the Judges chose 20 finalists (5 only, 5 ensemble, 5 duel, 5 battle); in case of a number less than 5 finalists per category, the Judges will be able to retrieve the best among the eliminated in the two days.

### **5. Rehearsal (third day)**

The 5 finalists per category are allowed a rehearsal of a maximum duration of 100 seconds each to calibrate the lights and the scenographic effects eventually provided in the respective final performances.

### **6. Final round (third day)**

The Final will be attended by the 20 competitors who passed the two preliminary rounds.

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In the Final round all the competitors will perform in the obligatory presence of the public and the Judges.

The exhibition may be different from that of the previous days, but always belonging to the same category (solo, ensemble, duel or battle).

Before the start of the Final, the AAI CD, with the collaboration of the Judges, will select among the public present an odd number of Popular judges of not less than 11 and not more than 21, all aged at least 18, in compliance with the following criteria:

- 1) Different nationalities;
- 2) Equal representation between men and women.

At the end of each performance the judgment of the Judges will be combined with that of the popular judges, in compliance with the following criteria:

- 1) each Judge can assign 0, or 1, or 2 points to the performance, depending on his/her liking;
- 2) each Popular judge can assign 0 or 1 point to the performance, depending on his/her liking.

The sum of the votes of the judges and the popular judges will represent the vote of the performance and will contribute to the formation of the final classification.

Only the best three for each category will be awarded.

In case of a tie, the whole Jury (Judges and Popular judges), will decide by majority.

### **7. Injuries, weapon breakage and elimination from the competition**

In the event of an accident on stage the performance will be interrupted and canceled and, following the medical certification of ability to continue the competition, the performer will be able to perform the exercise again at the end of the other performances.

In the event of a weapon breaking the performance will have to continue and the ability of the performer to manage the unexpected situation will be evaluated.

The causes of elimination from the competition, at each stage of the event, are:

- 1) non-presentation on the scene;
- 2) use of dangerous weapons (sharp or pointed);
- 3) vulgarity or brutality in dialogues and gestures;
- 4) clearly free fighting, not preordained;
- 5) throwing weapons or objects at the Judges or the public.

The judgment on the elimination of a performer must be unanimous by the four judges; an immediate appeal is allowed to the CD of the AAI (three members) and the relative decision will be final.