



— JEUX DU —
CANADA
— GAMES —

**MEDIA INFORMATION PACKAGE
FENCING**



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A. HISTORY OF SPORT

Fencing is a modern and exciting sport, often described as trying to play chess while running the 100-metre dash! It's hard to believe that this thoroughly sophisticated sport has emerged from the serious and deadly combat practiced by the Three Mousquetaires.

Fencing is truly an Olympic sport, having been involved since the first modern Olympics took place in Athens in 1896. In addition, Fencing holds the distinguished honour of being one of only four sports which have participated in every modern Olympic Games since their inauguration.

Canadian fencing dates back to 1816 when Maitre Girard opened the first fencing school in Montréal. The first Canadian Championships were held in 1902.

It was not until the announcement of the 1976 Olympics and incorporation of the Canadian Fencing Federation in 1971, that the Federal Government provided financial assistance to develop elite athletes for the Montréal Olympiad, providing the stimulus for Canadian fencers to steadily improve their performance on the international scene.

The CFF is a non-profit, amateur sports association and is the national governing body of fencing. It includes ten provincial fencing associations, which in turn represent eighty local clubs from coast to coast. Its mandate is to establish, develop and support fencing in Canada and to represent Canada on the international scene.

B. CANADA GAMES SPORT HISTORY AND PAST RESULTS

Fencing was first contested at the Canada Games in 1971 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Below are the ranking of the Provinces/Territories since the inaugural games:

	1971*		1975*		1979	1991		1995		1999		2003	
	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>
AB	-	-	-	-	5	2	2	2	2	5	5	6	3
BC	2	1	-	3	3	7	6	6	4	4	4	7	7
MB	-	-	-	-	4	6	10	7	8	8	7	3	4
NB	-	-	-	-	8	9	7	8	6	7	8	2	6
NL	-	-	-	-	9	10	9	10	10	9	9	10	-
NWT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NS	-	-	-	-	5	4	3	4	7	6	3	8	8
ON	1	2	1	2	2	3	4	3	3	3	2	4	2
PEI	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	8	9	9	-	9	9
QC	3	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
SK	-	-	3	-	7	5	5	5	5	2	6	5	5
YK	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

C. NUMBER OF ATHLETES PER TEAM

Each team will have nine male and nine female competitors.

D. EVENT FORMAT AND RULES OF PLAY

The competition will be fenced according to FIE Regulations of Competition as of September 1st, 2006, unless otherwise noted below.

Men and women shall compete in Sabre, Foil and Épée. Fencers will compete in one weapon only, except in the event of an on-site substitution due to a medically certified illness or injury. A province/territory may enter 3 fencers in each event.

Team Event

During the competition, each team will fence a round where fencers of his/her team will fence each other (bouts within teams). Then every provincial team will fence every other team using the round robin formula adopted from modern pentathlon. This will allow classification of fencers individually, (ranked according to the total number of victories they achieved during the competition) as well as allowing classification of teams (ranked according to the number of team victories).

First Round: Bouts within Teams: Fencers within each team will fence each other (intra-team match). For subsequent rounds, every provincial team will fence every other team in a complete round robin. Each team member will fence each member of the opposite team: i.e. matches will be fenced to completion. Five victories constitute a team match victory. At the completion of the team rounds, all teams are ranked according to the number of team match victories. Tie-breaking procedures will be used if teams are tied for team match victories. This ranking determines the final team results. All fencers are then ranked individually according to the standard FIE method of ranking fencers after a round of pools. This ranking determines the participation of fencers in the individual event.

Seeding of teams (by weapon) will be based on the National Ranking at December 31, 2006. The schedule of matches will be completed by January 31, 2007. Seeding may not be appealed.

Individual Event

A ranking of athletes from first to last in each weapon will be established according to the total number of wins and losses from the team event.

The top eight athletes will advance to a single elimination final. The two semi-final losers will both be classified third and will both be awarded bronze medals. The four quarter-final losers will all be classified from fifth to eighth according to their relative ranks from the team event. In other words, the quarter-final loser that had the highest rank in the team event will be ranked fifth, the second highest ranked from the team event will be ranked sixth, etc.

For the individual event finals, seeds will be arranged as follows:

Quarter-finals	Semi-finals	Finals
A: 1 vs. 8	E: Winner of A vs. Winner of B	
B: 4 vs. 5		

		G: Winner of E vs. Winner of F
C: 3 vs. 6	F: Winner of C vs. Winner of D	
D: 2 vs. 7		

Illness or Injury

If an athlete becomes ill or injured and cannot start, he or she may be substituted by an athlete of the same gender competing in another weapon. The ill or injured athlete must obtain a note from a physician at the venue or polyclinic stating that the athlete has sought medical attention for his or her condition. As specified in the FIE rules, the ill or injured athlete will not be permitted to return to competition on the same day. In order to return to competition, the athlete must immediately present a medical certificate to the CFF Technical Representative. The ill or injured athlete can qualify for individual event finals. The ill/injured athlete does not have to be replaced (if he/she is not replaced, he/she is still considered a team member). The substitute athlete may continue to compete in his/her original event.

E. EQUIPMENT & TERMINOLOGY

Weapons

Foil The foil is the modern version of the original practice weapon for dueling sword. The valid target for foil is the body torso. Valid hits can only be scored with the point of the blade. Competitive fencing requires that fencers wear a metallic vest, which will permit the hits to be registered by an electric scoring apparatus.

Epee The epee is the modern version of the historical dueling sword. The Epee is heavier than the foil and has a rigid bi-angular blade. The valid target is the whole body, and hits are made with the point only and are registered by an electrical scoring apparatus. Epee hits are registered on the basis of which fencer makes the first hit. In this discipline double hits are valid when both touches are made within a very narrow time frame.

Sabre The sabre is the modern version of the cavalry sword. Hits can be scored with the point or the cutting edges on the target area, which is anywhere above the waist including head and arms, and are registered electrically. A hit on the off target area does not stop the continuance of the fencing phase

F. ELIGIBILITY

All competitors must be under 17 years of age as of December 31, 2006.

G. JUDGING/SCORING SYSTEM

Bouts in the team events will be fenced to five touches or three minutes, according to the FIE Regulations of Competition, including amendments, in force at the time of the Games. All bouts in the team event must be fenced. The correct order of bouts must be followed; however if an error in bout order occurs, the opposing team is permitted to reorder the remaining matches as they wish.

Bouts in the individual events will be fenced to 15 touches or nine minutes (three periods of three minutes with a one minute rest between periods).

Provincial/Territorial Ranking:

Men and women will be ranked separately.

Teams for each weapon (e.g., PEI men's foil) will be ranked similarly

Team Events:

Position	Pts	Position	Pts	Position	Pts	Position	Pts
1st	150	5th	110	9th	70	13th	30
2nd	140	6th	100	10th	60		
3rd	130	7th	90	11th	50		
4th	120	8th	80	12th	40		

Individual Events:

Position	Pts	Position	Pts	Position	Pts
1st place	100	12th place	74	23rd place	63
2nd place	97	13th place	73	24th place	62
3rd place	94	14th place	72	25th place	61
4th place	91	15th place	71	26th place	60
5th place	88	16th place	70	27th place	59
6th place	85	17th place	69	28th place	58
7th place	83	18th place	68	29th place	57
8th place	81	19th place	67	30th place	56
9th place	79	20th place	66		
10th place	77	21st place	65		
11th place	75	22nd place	64		

For men and women, the maximum points available to any province for each gender would be 450 (150 team points X 3 events); the maximum individual points available to any one province would be 405 (1st, 2nd and 3rd place X 3 events).

Teams of two members in a weapon will begin with three 5-0 defeats and will be considered a team for provincial/territorial ranking. An athlete that becomes ill or injured will be considered a team member.

The final classification will be determined by adding all individual event points to the team points.

Points for the Games Flag will then be allocated as follows:

1st place	10 points	6nd place	5 points	11th place	1.5 points
2nd place	9 points	7nd place	4 points	12th place	1 point
3nd place	8 points	8nd place	3 points	13th place	0.5 point
4nd place	7 points	9nd place	2.5 points		
5nd place	6 points	10nd place	2 points		

H. PLAYOFF AND TIE-BREAKING FORMAT

Team

Since each team will consist of 3 fencers, 9 matches will be fought and the result of each team match will be the sum of 9, which excludes equality. Should there be a tie in the number of match victories between provinces; the tie-breaking procedure will be as follows:

1) The winner will be determined by the number of bout victories;

- 2) In the case of a tie in the number of bout victories, the province with a better individual indicator (the total of hits scored minus the total of hits received) from the whole competition will be placed higher;
- 3) In the case of equality of indicator, the province with the most hits scored will be placed higher.
- 4) In the case of equality after above process, each team which is tied will elect one member to fence a barrage (to 5, five, hits)

Individual

In the case of a tie for one of the eight positions for the individual event finals, ties will be broken as follows:

- a) The winner will be determined by the number of victories;
- b) In the case of a tie in the number of victories, a fencer with a better individual indicator (the total of hits scored minus the total of hits received) from the whole competition will be placed higher;
- c) In the case of equality of indicator, the fencer with the most hits scored will be placed higher;
- d) In the case of perfect equality of the indicator and the number of hits scored, both fencers will fence a barrage for five touches or three minutes for the higher place.

Provincial/Territorial Ranking – Tie Breaking:

Provinces will be ranked according to the total points accumulated from the individual and team classification. In the case of a tie, the province/territory with the greater number of first places (individual or team) will be ranked higher. If still tied, the team with the greater number of second places, then third places, etc. will be ranked higher

I. FACILITY DESCRIPTION

During the 2007 Winter Games, fencing competition will take place at Vanier Catholic Secondary School.

Vanier Catholic Secondary School has a hardwood gym floor (17m x 35m) which will be used for both shooting and fencing.