

# SINGAPORE SCHOOLS SPORTS COUNCIL FENCING RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR NATIONAL SCHOOL GAMES 2024

(Updated as of 26 February 2024)

# SINGAPORE SCHOOLS SPORTS COUNCIL FENCING RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR NATIONAL SCHOOL GAMES 2024

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#### **PREAMBLE**

This document outlines the rules and regulations for the conduct of and participation in the National School Games (NSG). These rules and regulations should be interpreted and implemented in alignment to the spirit of the SSSC's Mission, Aspirations and Motto (**Refer to Annex A**).

#### SECTION A – ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS

#### 1. ORGANISATION STRUCTURE AND GOVERNING BODIES

- 1.1 The National School Games (NSG) shall be conducted:
  - 1.1.1 as governed by the General Rules and Regulations of the Singapore Schools Sports Council (SSSC).
  - 1.1.2 according to the Fencing rules and regulations that are modified to suit the level of our school students for safety / developmental reasons.
  - 1.1.3 adhering to the Baseline Safety Standards for the NSG.
  - 1.1.4 according to the laws / rules established by the International Fencing Federation (FIE).
- 1.2 National School Games Organising Committee (NSGOC)
  - 1.2.1 The NSGOC shall consist of the following:
    - a) Lead Convenor
    - b) Convenors
    - c) Lead Organising Secretary
    - d) Organising Secretaries
    - e) Game Advisor
    - f) Game Manager / Game Executive
    - g) Technical Committee
    - h) Any other co-opted members deemed necessary
  - 1.2.2 The NSGOCs are empowered to appoint sub-committees and individual members to assist in the organisation and running of the NSG competitions as and when required.
  - 1.2.3 The NSGOCs shall have sub-committees to perform the following roles and responsibilities (**Refer to Annex B**): -
    - a) <u>Competitions</u>: Organise and conduct the competition according to the rules and regulations, and established safety standards.
    - b) <u>Technical</u>: Establish, review and update competition rules and regulations for the competitions and other matters necessary to provide for safe and developmentally appropriate NSG competitions.
    - c) Recognition, Protest and Discipline: Manage recognition and discipline structures to support the desired outcomes of the NSG.
    - d) Other functions necessary for the successful completion of the NSG sport that the NSGOC is in charge of.

#### 2 AGE GROUPS / DIVISIONS/ NSG SPORTS CATEGORIES

2.1 All students shall compete in their respective divisions according to their year of birth\* as follows:

'A' Division\* 1 Jan 2004 (subject to conditions laid out in

para 2.2)

2 Jan 2004 - 31 Dec 2004 1 Jan 2005 - 31 Dec 2005 1 Jan 2006 - 31 Dec 2006 1 Jan 2007 - 31 Dec 2007

1 Jan 2008

'B' Division\* 1 Jan 2007 (subject to conditions laid out in

para 2.2)

2 Jan 2007 - 31 Dec 2007 1 Jan 2008 - 31 Dec 2008 1 Jan 2009 - 31 Dec 2009

1 Jan 2010

'C' Division\* 1 Jan 2010 (subject to conditions laid out in

para 2.2)

2 Jan 2010 - 31 Dec 2010 1 Jan 2011 - 31 Dec 2011

1 Jan 2012

#### \* Subject to the following conditions:

- All students in the Junior Colleges (JC) and Millennia Institute (MI) must compete in the 'A' Division.
- Year 1 to Year 4 students in the Integrated Programme (i.e., Through-Train Programme) and International Baccalaureate Programme will compete in their respective age group. Those in Year 5 (equivalent to JC 1) and Year 6 (equivalent to JC 2) must compete in the 'A' Division.
- All students in Secondary Schools must compete in the 'B' or 'C' Division according to their **year of birth**.
- All students in Secondary Schools not born in the stipulated year for 'B' or 'C' Division must compete in the 'A' Division.
- 2.1.1 With effect from 2021, students who are born on 1 January and have participated in NSG previously shall follow the rules stated in Para 2.2. This rule will supersede all previous decisions.
- 2.1.2 This exception in Para 2.2 does not apply to students who are born on 1 January and have repeated a year of study.
- 2.2 All students can only be registered in one division of that particular sport within the same year.
- 2.3 Categories of NSG Sports
  - 2.3.1 <u>Match-based (Team) Sports</u>: Badminton, Basketball, Cricket, Floorball, Football, Hockey, Netball, Rugby, Sepaktakraw, Softball, Squash, Table Tennis, Tennis, Water Polo and Volleyball.
  - 2.3.2 Match-based (Individual) Sports: Fencing, Taekwondo (Kyorugi) and Judo.
  - 2.3.3 <u>Event-based Sports</u>: Bowling, Canoeing, Cross-Country, Golf, Gymnastics, Sailing, Swimming, Shooting, Taekwondo (Poomsae), Track & Field and Wushu.

#### 3. ENTRIES

3.1 Each school is eligible to enter only one team per division per sex.

#### 4. REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS

#### 4.1 Eligibility

- 4.1.1 Only official students of the school can represent the school.
- 4.1.2 Students requesting for a transfer may only represent their new school when the transfer has been officially effected.
- 4.1.3 International students can only be registered to compete for their school **after** they have been issued with the student passes from the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority (ICA).
- 4.1.4 Students who are in the schools on exchange programmes are not allowed to represent the school.
- 4.1.5 Students granted Leave of Absence (LOA) by MOE are allowed to represent the school.
- 4.1.6 Students who have qualified for the Polytechnic Foundation Programme (PFP) can represent their school only up till 31 January of the competition year.
- 4.1.7 Registration constitutes representation, that is, once a student is registered to compete for a school, he or she is deemed to have represented his or her school. Hence, the student is not allowed to represent another school in the same sport in the same year.
- 4.1.8 The fielding of unregistered participants will result in a forfeiture of the matches / events concerned (**Refer to Para. 10**).

#### 4.2 Registration Process

- 4.2.1 All registration must be submitted through the NSG Integrated system (NIS) Registration Module at https://nsg.moe.edu.sg/nis/#!/login by the stipulated closing date. This includes details of participants along with the necessary supporting documents including:
  - a) Baseline Safety Standards Acknowledgement Form
  - b) Supporting documents for Special / Transfer case students
  - c) Other forms as determined by the respective NSGOCs
- 4.2.2 Any late or amendments to the registration after the closing date must be sent via email through the Principal to the Lead Convenor
  - 4.2.2.1 <u>Match-based (Individual) Sports</u>: 1 working day before the publishing of start list of NSG for Fencing (draw is conducted on first day of NSG)

#### 4.3 Registration Numbers

- 4.3.1 Each school may register up to a maximum of 5 participants per individual weapon event.
  - 4.3.1.1 In the event that a school has reached a maximum of 5 participants per event, they are allowed to register up to <u>2</u> <u>reserves.</u>
  - 4.3.1.2 The school must register the maximum number of participants for the division (refer to para. 3 'Entries') to be eligible for the application to call in the reserved fencer(s) for safety reason.
  - 4.3.1.3 Team Manager is to ensure the replacement fencer has adequate competency and training for the event and has gone through the rules of the game (as reflected in the BSS School Acknowledgement).

#### 4.4 Replacement and addition of participants

4.3.1 Replacement of a registered participant is only allowed when that participant is no longer an official student of the school and if the school has maximised their registration numbers.

- 4.3.2 Addition of participants is only allowed for students who have joined the school after registration has closed and if schools have not maximised their registration numbers.
- 4.3.3 Any request for replacement (Para. 4.3.1) or addition (Para. 4.3.2) after registration has closed, must be sent via email through the Principal to the Lead Convenor at least one (1) working day before the next match.
- 4.5 In competitions where there is a Classification / Pool Round for League Competitions, participants / teams will progress automatically to the League round with no further registration required.

#### SECTION B - COMPETITION RULES & REGULATIONS

#### 5. COMPETITION FORMAT (Refer to Annex C)

- 5.1 All sports competition formats shall be that as approved by the SSSC's Standing Committee and stated in the specific sport's rules and regulations.
- 5.2 The competition is organised in the following formats:
  - a) Direct National ('A', 'B' and 'C' Divisions)
- 5.3 For a competition / event to be organised:
  - 5.3.1 There must be a minimum of three (3) registered teams from (2) different schools for Fencing.
  - 5.3.2 The competition will be fenced according to FIE rules and weapons check will be conducted (mask test before event and weight/gauge test on the piste).
- 5.4 For Fencing:
  - 5.4.1 Preliminary Round 1 Poule
    - 5.4.1.1 All participants (per division, sex and event) will be placed in Preliminary Round 1 poule of 5 to 7 fencers, according to FS's ranking, followed by school's seeding. There will be 1 round of poule only.
    - 5.4.1.2 Final Direct Elimination (DE) list will be generated from poule 1's results using the elimination ratio according to the laws/rules established by International Fencing Federation (FIE):

Number of fencers (per division, sex and event)	Elimination ratio
>50	30%
20 – 49	20%
10 – 19	10%
<10	No elimination

#### 5.4.2 Direct Elimination Round

5.4.2.1 After the Preliminary Round 1 poule, selected participants, based on rank positions, will continue to the Direct Elimination (DE). This is a direct knockout format and only winners from their matches will proceed to the next round and so forth. There will be no playoff for 3rd and 4th placing. They will be declared

as joint 3rd winners.

- 5.5 Seeding and Placing (Refer to Annex C)
  - 5.5.1 The preceding year's results shall be used for seeding in the first round of all competition formats.

#### 6. AWARD OF LEAGUE POINTS

6.1 For Fencing, the National Divisional Championship Title (NDCT) system shall apply. The score for each individual participant will be calculated based on Table 1 as follows.

Table 1

Position	Points
1 <sup>st</sup>	1 point
2 <sup>nd</sup>	2 points
Joint 3 <sup>rd</sup>	3 points
5 <sup>th</sup> to N <sup>th</sup> * in Direct Elimination Round	5 to N points
Round 1	N + 1 points
"Ghost" Entry	N + 2 points

<sup>\*</sup>Nth = last position in the Direct Elimination Round

- 6.2 Participants who are eliminated in the preliminary round 1 are given a rank of N+1 and "ghost" entry will get the rank of N+2. The participants who qualify for the Direct Elimination Round will be given points based on their rank positions.
- 6.3 No team event will be held. The points of the top 3 individual participants from all the 3 weapon groups (Highest points from 3 participants in foil, highest points from 3 participants in epee, highest points from 3 participants in sabre groups) will be added to determine the champion school for a particular division.
- 6.4 Table 2 illustrates the calculation of the points (including preliminary round 1 and "ghost" entry).

Table 2

Oak	Epee (55 participants)		Foil (40 participants)		Sabre (41 participants)			Total	Daulda -			
Sch	Total participants	1st Rank	2nd Rank	3rd Rank	1st Rank	2nd Rank	3rd Rank	1st Rank	2nd Rank	3rd Rank	Points	Ranking
Sch A	11	1	14	20	2	14	16	1	5	7	80	2
Sch B	14	7	10	17	3	6	12	2	3	6	66	1
Sch C	2	2	3	41**	1	34**	34**	31	33*	34**	213	9
Sch D	11	12	21	25	8	11	20	16	22	24	159	3

E.g., Number of fencers to reach Direct Elimination Round – Epee (39), Foil (32), Sabre (32)

- The team with the lowest points will be declared the Champions. In the above example, School B, with its lowest points of 66, will be the champion for the Division.
- 6.6 If a school has missing points in a weapon group, "ghost" entries will be used to calculate the points for National Divisional Championships.
- 6.7 Tie-break

<sup>\*</sup> Eliminated participants from Round 1

<sup>\*\* &</sup>quot;Ghost" entries to make up for the missing entries

6.7.1 In the case where schools have the same medal placing, there will be a tie breaker of the best participant's ranking position to the last participant's ranking position. The team with a lower best participant's ranking position will be the winner. The points for each individual participant will be calculated as shown in Table 1.

#### 7. AWARDS

- 7.1 Divisional Awards
  - 7.1.1 There should be only one (1) Divisional Title<sup>1</sup> per division per sex for each sport<sup>2</sup>.
  - 7.1.2 The number of divisional trophies to be awarded shall be as follows:

No. of Participants / Teams	<b>Positions Awarded</b>
3 to 4	2
5 to 6	3
7 or more	4

- 7.1.3 No individual award will be given to each participant.
- 7.2 The number of prizes to be awarded for Zonal to National / Direct National Competitions shall be as follows:

No. of Participants / Teams	Positions Awarded
3	2
4	3
5 or more	4

#### 8. REPORTING AND GRACE PERIOD

- 8.1 Participants are to report punctually according to the time stated by the NSGOC.
- 8.2 Participants who are unable to report on time, must inform the NSGOC or their representatives at the competition venue of the delay. Where applicable, specific sports can allow for a grace period of fifteen (15) minutes. The NSGOC may extend this grace period if deemed justifiable.

#### 9. POSTPONEMENT AND ABANDONMENT

9.1 Any postponement or abandonment<sup>3</sup> of a match / event shall be determined by the NSGOC only.

#### 10. WITHDRAWAL AND FORFEITURE

10.1 Any withdrawal<sup>4</sup> or forfeiture<sup>5</sup> can be considered contrary to the spirit of the NSG and can result in a walkover when the fixtures / competition schedule has been issued.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Only events with a minimum of three (3) competitors from three (3) different schools will contribute to the calculation for Divisional Titles.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Three (3) disciplines for Gymnastics are considered as three (3) individual sports.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Abandonment refers to any match / event that started but cannot reach a natural conclusion and may be postponed or cancelled.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Withdrawal refers to discontinuing participation in the competition.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Forfeiture refers to inability to start or complete a match / event.

- 10.1.1 In the event that the withdrawal causes unevenness in the fixtures / competition, the NSGOC may conduct a full / partial re-draw.
- 10.2 For each withdrawal or forfeiture, a written explanation duly endorsed by the Principal shall be submitted to the Lead Convenor and copied to the Game Advisor within one (1) working day.
- 10.3 For withdrawals, all results involving the team / participant will be null & void.
- 10.4 For forfeitures, the team / participant will concede a walkover and the\_results of a match / event shall be based on the sports specific rules and regulations.
- 10.5 In any play-off for top 8 placings, schools involved in a withdrawal or forfeiture without a valid reason will not be placed.

#### 11. WALKOUT<sup>6</sup>

- 11.1 Staging a walkout is <u>considered</u> a serious breach of conduct and contrary to the spirit of NSG.
- 11.2 Participants that stage a walkout shall be subject to disciplinary action (Refer to Para 19).
- 11.3 A written explanation from the school(s) duly endorsed by the Principal shall be submitted to the Lead Convenor and copied to the Game Advisor within one (1) working day.
- 11.4 The competition officials shall submit a written report to the NSGOC within one (1) working day.

#### 12. CLARIFICATION AND PROTEST

#### 12.1 Clarification

- 12.1.1 Team Managers (TMs) are allowed to seek clarification with the competition officials / NSGOC during intervals or appropriate times as stated in the Fencing rules. Upon completion of clarification, the match / event shall proceed based on the decision of the competition officials / NSGOC.
- 12.1.2 If the clarification were to result in any disruption / interference of the competition, the matter shall be brought to the attention of the NSGOC for follow up action.

#### 12.3 Protest

- 12.3.1 Following from Para. 12.2, the TM concerned may submit an official protest to the NSGOC via email. The protest must fulfil all the following conditions:
  - a) Be sent through the Principal.
  - Reach the NSGOC within one (1) working day after the match / event unless stipulated otherwise in the respective Fencing rules.
  - c) Provide reasons and evidence for the protest.
  - d) Meets the requirements as stated in Para. 12.2.2.
- 12.3.2 Protests based solely on a decision involving the accuracy of judgement on the part of an umpire / referee / judge shall not be considered by the NSGOC.
- 12.3.3 A protest panel chaired by a Convenor will be formed within the NSGOC to deliberate on protests that have met all conditions in 12.3.1. Where there may be potential conflict of interest, the schools involved will not sit in the panel.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Wilful refusal to compete against the NSGOC's advice.

- 12.3.4 The decision of the protest panel will be made known in writing to the schools concerned within five (5) working days.
- 12.3.5 A protest fee of \$150 will be paid by the school that raised the protest (within 30 days from notification of outcome) if the protest is overruled.

#### 13. APPEAL

- 13.1 Schools may appeal against the outcome of a protest to the Council. The appeal must fulfil all the following conditions:
  - a) Be sent through the Principal.
  - b) Reaches the respective Honorary Secretary for zonal competitions, or Secretariat of the main council for national competitions within two (2) working days upon receiving the protest sub-committee's decision.
  - c) Provides reasons and evidence for the appeal.
- 13.2 The Board of Appeal (BoA) will be convened to deliberate on the appeal within ten (10) working days. Where there may be potential conflict of interest, the schools involved will not sit in the BoA. The decision of the BoA shall be final.
- 13.3 An appeal fee of \$300 will be paid by the schools that raised the appeal (within 30 days from notification of outcome) if the appeal is overruled.

#### 14. BARRED PARTICIPANTS

- 14.1 Participants barred by any one of the following bodies are not allowed to participate in the NSG for that sport:
  - a) School
  - b) Singapore Schools Sports Council (SSSC)
  - c) Fencing Singapore with endorsement from SSSC

#### 15. TEAM MANAGER (TM)

- 15.1 The Team Manager (TM) will represent the school on all matters pertaining to the duty of care, student management and competition matters relating to the participants / teams from his / her school (**Refer to Annex E**).
- 15.2 Participants / teams must be accompanied by 2 TMs who shall remain with the team throughout the duration of play. The absence of the TMs will result in a forfeiture of the matches / events concerned (**Refer to Para. 10**).
- The TM shall be a school staff<sup>7</sup> or School Adult Representative (SAR) (**Refer to Annex F**) appointed by the participating school.
- 15.4 TMs are expected to conduct themselves with decorum at all times and strive towards Aspiration 2 (**Refer to Annex A**).
- 15.5 TMs must ensure that their coaches adhere to the rules and regulations and the Code of Conduct (**Refer to Annex G**).

#### 16. COACHES

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> MOE employed staff such as Education Officer, Contract Adjunct, Flexi Adjunct, EAS (AM, OM and CSO) and AED.

- 16.1 Coaches are expected to conduct themselves with decorum in alignment to the Code of Conduct (**Refer to Annex G**) and strive towards Aspiration 2 at all times (**Refer to Annex A**).
- 16.2 Coaches are not allowed to approach the officials to query their decisions. Only TMs are allowed to approach officials to seek clarifications.

#### 17. COMPETITION OFFICIALS

- 17.1 The referee is the deciding authority on the field of play and the sole judge of time.
- 17.2 Where required by Fencing rules and regulations, competition officials should declare any potential conflict of interest to the NSGOC before the start of the competition.

#### 18. SPECTATORS

- 18.1 Participating schools must ensure that spectators from their school attending the competitions are aligned to Aspiration 5 (**Refer to Annex A**) and cooperate with the officials.
- 18.2 Schools sending spectators to the competition shall ensure that their students are in proper school attire and that there are sufficient teachers present to be responsible for their management and well-being.
- 18.3 Spectators may not be allowed to enter the competition venue if they fail to comply with the venue's SOP.
- 18.4 All spectators should remain within their stipulated area throughout the competition and are not allowed to interfere with competition proceedings.
- 18.5 In the event of disruptive or unsportsmanlike behaviour, the NSGOC or its representatives may at their discretion, stop the disturbance and evict the spectators from the competition venue.

#### 19. SERIOUS BREACH OF CONDUCT

- 19.1 A Disciplinary Panel comprising members of the NSGOC will be formed to investigate the breach.
  - 19.1.1 A convenor of the NSGOC shall be appointed as the Chairperson of the panel.
  - 19.1.2 The panel may co-opt members from outside the NSGOC, including personnel from the National Federation (NF) to provide technical advice where necessary.
- 19.2 Any individual found guilty of serious breaches of conduct, such as an attempt to inflict, or has inflicted physical harm, or the threat of such on another person, shall be expelled from the NSG, and be banned from it for the calendar year of the NSG. The disciplinary panel can also recommend punishment beyond the calendar year if the breach occurs during the final stages of the competition. This shall also apply to all such behaviours traced to an NSG competition before, during or after the competition.
- 19.3 An appeal against the decision of the Disciplinary Panel can be submitted by the school (for participants, coaches, and TMs) and / or the official to the Council, whose decision shall be final (**Refer to** Para. 13).

#### 20. ATTIRE

- 20.1 Equipment checks will be conducted by the organisers prior to the competition at the start of each day. A complete list of checked equipment is listed in the **Annex H**; participants will not be allowed to use equipment that has not been checked or possesses the appropriate approval mark.
- It is mandatory for all participants to wear FIE 800N under plastrons, minimum CE 350N fencing suits and long socks (predominantly white in colour that covers to above the knees, i.e. fencing or soccer socks). All participants in the Foil event are required to wear a Mask with a conductive bib. Participants who do not comply with the attire as indicated above will not be allowed to compete. Participants should bring a spare weapon and spare body cord to be put at the side of the piste during their bout. Sabre Cuff or Sabre Glove is to be used. Only relevant masks are to be used must be for their respective events (example, no foil or sabre masks to be used at Epee event).
- 20.3 Only masks with two independent, working security devices will be allowed. Please refer to Point 12 of the FS Competition Policy available at <a href="http://www.fencingsingapore.org.sg/download/fs-local-competition-policy/">http://www.fencingsingapore.org.sg/download/fs-local-competition-policy/</a>.
- 20.4 All participants must be suitably attired in accordance with the requirement of the Fencing as indicated above. Please refer to Point 12 of the FS Competition Policy available at <a href="http://www.fencingsingapore.org.sg/download/fs-local-competition-policy/">http://www.fencingsingapore.org.sg/download/fs-local-competition-policy/</a>.

#### SECTION C – AMENDMENTS AND MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

#### 21. MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

21.1 All matters not provided for in these Rules and Regulations shall be dealt with by the respective NSGOCs.

#### 22. AMENDMENTS

The SSSC shall have the right to delete, add or amend the Rules and Regulations laid down herein.

#### 23. LIST OF ANNEXES

Α	SSSC Mission, Aspirations and Motto
В	NSGOC Terms of Reference
B1	PDPA Notification
С	Competition Format
D	Clarification, Protest and Appeal Overview
Е	Role of Team Managers
F	School Adult Representative (SAR)
F1	SAR Letter of Appointment
G	Code of Conduct for Coaches
Н	Equipment Standards for Fencing

# SINGAPORE PRIMARY SCHOOLS SPORTS COUNCIL (SPSSC) AND SINGAPORE SCHOOLS SPORTS COUNCIL (SSSC)

#### MISSION, MOTTO AND ASPIRATIONS

#### Mission

"To provide quality competition experiences for our school-athletes to support character development through the pursuit of sporting excellence"

#### Motto

"Character in Sporting Excellence"

#### Aspiration 1: Every athlete an honourable sportsperson

#### **Guiding Principle:**

Athletes abide by the rules of the sport, give their best in training and competitions, win with integrity and humility, and lose with confidence and grace. They participate actively and are committed to being better in their sport. They respect their opponents, teammates, coaches, teachers and officials, and display exemplary conduct both on and off court.





#### ATHLETES' OATH

"In the name of all competitors

we promise that we shall take part
in these National School Games,
respecting and abiding by the rules which govern them,
committing ourselves to the true spirit of sportsmanship,
without doping and without drugs,
for the glory of sport
and the honour of our teams."

(Revised version 2015; Adapted from the Olympic Athletes' Oath, 1999)

Character in Sporting Excellence

#### Aspiration 2: Every teacher and coach an inspiring role model and mentor

#### **Guiding Principle:**

The teacher / coach endeavours to develop all athlete to their fullest potential. He focuses on student-centric and values-driven coaching. Teachers / coaches maintains a professional relationship with the athletes and ensures their safety and well-being at all times. As positive role models, they inspire and motivate the athletes towards greater heights.





# **COACHES' OATH**

In the name of all the coaches,
we promise to respect all athletes,
officials and coaches in these
National School Games.
We shall act in the best interest of the
athletes and schools,
without doping and without drugs.
We commit ourselves to ensure that the
spirit of sportsmanship and fair play is
fully adhered to and upheld always."

(Revised 2016; Adapted from the Olympic Coaches' Oath, 2012)

Character in Sporting Excellence

#### Aspiration 3: Every official a fair, respectable and competent authority

#### **Guiding Principle:**

The official is well-versed in the rules of the sport, and enforces the laws of the sport with impartiality. They are alert and act decisively when required. They ensure safety for all athletes and explain the rules when required. They uphold the professionalism of the sport.





# OFFICIALS' OATH

"In the name of all the judges and officials,
we promise that we shall officiate
in these National School Games
with complete impartiality,
without doping and without drugs.
We will respect and abide by
the rules which govern the Games,
in the true spirit of sportsmanship."

(Revised Version 2015; Adapted from the Olympic Officials' Oath, 1999)

**Character in Sporting Excellence** 

#### **Aspiration 4:** Every parent a supportive partner

#### **Guiding Principle:**

Parents take interest in their child's training and competitions and prioritise their long-term development over winning competitions. They ensure proper nutrition and rest for their children, and actively enquire on their progress and development. They work with the teacher and coach, attend competitions and respect the decisions of competition officials.

#### Aspiration 5: Every spectator a respectful, responsible and caring motivator

#### **Guiding Principle:**

Spectators applaude excellence and fair play from all athletes regardless of which team they represent. Spectators show appreciation for the efforts of all athletes, teachers, coaches, officials and organisers. They should cheer to encourage and motivate as well as care for the athletes' well-being. Spectators are responsible and keep the venue safe and comfortable for all.





## SPECTATORS' CREED

#### Be a Respectful Supporter

- · Applaud excellence and fair play
- Appreciate the efforts of all athletes, teachers, coaches, officials and organisers

### Be a Caring Motivator

- · Cheer to encourage and motivate
- · Care for athletes' well-being

## Be a Responsible Spectator

- · Keep the venue safe and comfortable for all
- Keep the venue clean

#### **Character in Sporting Excellence**

#### Aspiration 6: Every game a safe and enriching learning experience

#### **Guiding Principle:**

The format of competition is developmental and age-appropriate. The games provide athletes with the opportunity to display their sporting abilities, and be recognised for their achievements. Athletes enjoy the competitions, which are conducted under safe and conducive environments.

# TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR SPSSC / SSSC NATIONAL SCHOOL GAMES ORGANISING COMMITTEES (NSGOCs)

The NSGOCs shall have sub-committees to ensure the successful organising and completion of their respective sports that includes but is not limited to the following functions:

#### 1. COMPETITION

Organise the competition according to the rules and regulations, and established safety standards, including:

- a. Planning and Execution:
  - i. Work out the competition schedules, fixtures and venues required.
  - ii. Communicate with participating teams on all competition matters, including, but not limited to rules, dates, fixtures, venue, etc.
  - iii. Identify and appoint Competition Director (if applicable) for deployment of officials.
  - iv. Manage competition officials, venues, equipment, medical cover and logistics for effective and efficient conduct of the competition.

#### b. Risk Assessment and Management:

- Carry out risk assessment and management planning for each venue, including adherence to the baseline safety standards.
- ii. Communicate relevant parts of the risk assessment and management plan to all relevant parties.
- iii. Monitor and manage safety and security issues at the competition venue.

#### c. Venue Management:

- i. Ensure competition venues (including hosting schools and external venues) have the following in good condition to support the competition:
  - o Equipment
  - Line Drawings (if applicable)
  - o Consumables
- ii. Inform hosting Schools of competition schedule.
- iii. Disseminate competition fixtures to all hosting and participating schools once fixtures are confirmed.
- iv. Inform hosting and participating schools at least three (3) working days before should there be any changes of venue or fixtures.
- v. Ensure that competition officials and medical support (if applicable) arrive at stipulated time at the competition venue.
- vi. Remind TMs during briefing:
  - o To check the latest hosting venues' SOPs before each competition
  - o To inform their fellow colleagues and SAR who may be accompanying their students for the competitions on their behalf
- vii. Prepare the competition venue, such as display of PDPA notifications (**Refer to Annex B1**), proper allocation of spaces for assembly, warm-up, match, rest areas, spectators, where necessary.

#### d. Results Processing:

i. Ensure competition results are promptly and accurately sent to the NSGO for uploading to the NSG website.

#### e. Protest Management:

- i. Respond to clarifications / protests from participating schools during the competition.
- ii. Conduct investigations and resolve the clarifications / protests relating to the competition.

#### 2. TECHNICAL

- a. Establish competition rules and regulations for the sport to ensure age appropriateness and opportunities for skills development, including, but not restricted to:
  - Age grouping / division
  - Format of competition
  - Permitted equipment
  - o Field of play
  - Duration of play; intervals
  - Number of participants
  - o Substitution rules, etc.
- b. Identify and appoint the technical director and officials for each competition.
- c. Monitor and review baseline safety standards for the competition.
- d. Review and update competition rules and regulations annually and submit Games Recommendations to NSGOC or Council Standing Committee for approval, where necessary.

#### 3. RECOGNITION, PROTEST AND DISCIPLINE

#### a. Recognition

- i. Develop and implement appropriate recognition (including recognition criteria), to support the desired outcomes of the National School Games (NSG), such as Sportsmanship Award.
- ii. Collect and communicate good stories to relevant parties, including participating schools, MOE HQ and the media where appropriate.
- iii. Plan and organise prize presentations for the competition.

#### b. Protest

- iv. Conduct investigations with all parties involved, in consultation with the Game Advisor and Lead Convenor.
- v. Resolve all protests and respond to relevant parties on the outcome within a week of incident reported.
- vi. Update SPSSC / SSSC Standing Committee on the outcome of the clarifications / protests, where necessary.

#### c. Discipline

- i. Conduct investigations pertaining to disciplinary cases with all parties involved, in consultation with the Game Advisor.
- ii. Resolve all disciplinary cases and respond to relevant parties in a timely manner
- iii. Develop disciplinary policies and systemise processes to manage students, teachers and coaches and competition officials for alignment to the Councils' mission, motto and aspirations.



# National School Games Photography & Video Recording Notice



The Ministry of Education (MOE), its authorised photographers and videographers, and approved media broadcasters will be conducting photography and video recording at this event. The photographs and videos may be used by MOE for internal publication or publicity materials. Video footage of the event may be live-streamed on MOE's and the broadcasters' media platforms.

By entering this venue and taking part in this event, you consent to the collection, use, and/or disclosure of photographs and videos containing your personal data by MOE and the approved media broadcasters for the above purposes.

#### **COMPETITION FORMAT**

In determining the format for the competition, NSGOC should aim to provide meaningful competition experiences for participating students athlete and following the FIE rules.

#### 1. Grouping

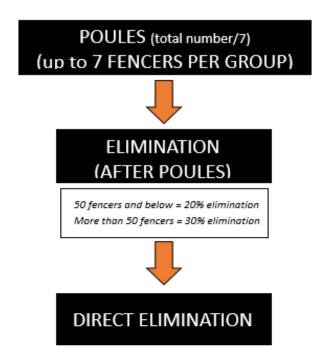
The grouping approach should be determined based on the number of student athletes in the competition, with the aim in allowing the participants to have sufficient playing opportunities while optimising resources (venue, officials, time, workload). Each group should comprise up to 7 participants starting with a single round of poules follow by direct elimination.

#### 2. Seeding

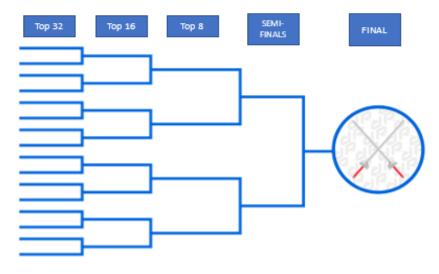
Seeding is done based on the latest national ranking in the following order:

DIVISION	SEEDING FORMAT (in sequence of priority)
B & C Division	Latest <u>Cadet</u> National Ranking (Top 16)     Ranking submitted by school
A Division	Latest <u>Junior</u> National Ranking (Top 16)     Ranking submitted by school

#### **CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT FOR FENCING**



Direct Elimination Table (e.g. from Top 32 onwards)



## Annex D

# **CLARIFICATION, PROTEST AND APPEAL OVERVIEW**

	Clarification (Formal & Informal)	Competing Under Protest (Some Sports Only)	Protest	Appeal
Handled by:	NSGOC Rep and/or Competition Officials	NSGOC Rep and/or Competition Officials	NSGOC	BOA (Council and Zone Vice-Chairpersons)
Who must be Informed:	NSGOC Rep, Competition Officials  NSGOC Rep, Competition Officials, Affected TMs a determined by NSGOC		Principal, Lead Convenor, Lead Org Sec, Game Advisor	Principal, Lead Convenor, Lead Org Sec, Game Advisor and Honorary Secretary (for Zonal), Council Secretariat (for National)
How to Inform:	How to Inform:  At competition venue, during appropriate interval without disrupting the game  At competition venue, during appropriate interval without disrupting the game		Indicate intent to protest on scoresheet at end of match and followed by an email sent through the Principal	Sent through the Principal via email
Fees if Overruled: Nil Nil		Nil	\$150	\$300
Approval Required From:	Nil	Nil	Principal	Principal

#### **ROLE OF THE TEAM MANAGERS**

Team Managers (TMs) will represent the school on all matters pertaining to the duty of care, student management and competition matters relating to the participants from their school. They must be a good role model for the participants and are expected to conduct themselves well in carrying out their duties. They will:

No	Terms of Reference		
1	Be the point of contact between the National School Games Organising Committee (NSGOC) and the Principal (school).		
2	Perform all necessary administrative duties and attend all briefings and / or meetings called for by the respective NSGOCs.		
3	Check, verify and keep updated the fixtures and schedules involving the school.		
4	<ul> <li>Ensure:</li> <li>Accuracy of participants' particulars in the registration and that participants are not placed in the wrong division.</li> <li>All participants are adequately prepared for safe participation in the NSG in accordance with the Baseline Safety Acknowledgement Form.</li> </ul>		
5	Check and comply with the hosting venue's Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and communicate all related the information to all the stakeholders associated with the participating schools.		
6	Make transport arrangements for the participants.		
7	Chaperone participants to and from the competition venue. TMs who are SAR need only chaperone their own child as Parent Chaperones are responsible for chaperoning their own children.		
8	Remain with the participants throughout the duration of play.		
9	Arrange for a replacement, in the event that they are not able to perform their duty during the entire competition duration. TMs who are SAR should contact the school for assistance in such situations.		
10	Cooperate with NSGOC & officials and abide by the rules and regulations of the competition to facilitate the smooth conduct of the competition and be a good role model for the participants.		
11	Submit participant / team list and other necessary documents when required.		
12	Manage the coaches, participants, and spectators, if any, to ensure that they adhere to the Fencing Fencing rules and regulations Code of Conduct given in the rules and regulations.		
13	Perform the duty of care for the participants' safety and well-being including:		
14	Contact the school immediately in the event of an injury or emergency.		

15	Consult school leaders for all media related matters.	
16	Represent the school in matters pertaining to clarifications / protests / appeals (as required by the sport).	
17	Accompany participants at disciplinary board meetings if the occasion arises.	
18	Attend to any other matters pertaining to the duty of care, student management and competition matters relating to the participants from their school.	

#### SCHOOL ADULT REPRESENTATIVE (SAR)

- 1. The School Adult Representative (SAR) scheme aims to support schools in balancing the numerous competition opportunities for students and managing staff resources. SAR should be parents/legal guardians of one of the participating student-athletes in the session.
- 2. Schools may appoint suitable SAR as Team Managers for the sports listed.

a) Bowling	g) Sailing
b) Canoeing	h) Shooting
c) Fencing	i) Swimming
d) Golf	j) Taekwondo
e) Judo	k) Track & Field
f) Gymnastics <sup>1</sup>	I) Wushu

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For Artistic Gymnastic and Trampoline, SAR may only be appointed by schools that do not offer Gymnastics as a CCA. They may be deployed to manage up to a maximum of 3 student athletes for each distinct competition of the sport.

- 3. SAR may be deployed to manage up to a <u>maximum of 3 student-athletes</u> for <u>each session</u> of the sport.
- 4. When there is more than one student-athlete in a session, SAR should be supported by parent chaperones (PC) who should be parents / legal guardians of the participating student-athletes. PC should accompany their own children to and from the competition venue and be responsible for their children's safety and well-being throughout the competition.
- 5. SAR are encouraged to be trained in first aid.
- 6. When appointing SAR, schools should:
  - Appoint an Education Officer (EO) as the School Coordinator, to serve as liaison between the SAR and the NSGOC.
  - Arrange and conduct a briefing for the SAR on their duties including:
    - o SSSSC General and Fencing Rules and Regulations
    - Safety protocols
    - Roles of TMs (Refer to Annex G)
    - Other school-specific SOPs or requirements
  - Be represented by 1 SAR per session only.
  - Ensure that PC are present to oversee their own children's / ward's safety and wellbeing when the SAR is on duty.
  - Issue the SAR Letter of Appointment (Refer to <u>Annex F1</u>) endorsed by the School Principal.

#### **Frequently Asked Questions**

1. Can grandparents, siblings, helpers or other relatives be appointed as SAR?

No. Only a parent or legal guardian of the student athlete can be appointed as the SAR.

2. Can schools send an SAR for a team sport or event at the SSSC NSG?

No. For all team sports or events, schools must send a **school staff** to be the Team Manager.

3. What happens when an appointed SAR is not able to be present for duty or needs to leave before the end of a competition?

The SAR should follow the school's current standard operating procedure for managing such situations and contact the school immediately to arrange for a replacement. An appropriate replacement should be provided by the participating school.

4. If the SAR needs to accompany his/her child to the hospital before the end of the competition, what are the standard procedures?

Please refer to Q6.

5. If any of the parent chaperones does not turn up or needs to leave before the competition ends, what are the standard procedures?

The SAR should call the School Coordinator to seek advice and assistance. The student whose parent is absent, may not be allowed to compete.

6. Is there a different set of Baseline Safety Standards (BSS) School Acknowledgement Form for schools represented by SAR?

The same form will be used. The School Coordinator should brief the SAR on the requirements and implications of the BSS Acknowledgement Form. SAR should also be familiar with the respective sports safety requirements and practices and is encouraged to be trained in first aid.

#### <School Letter Head>

# SCHOOL ADULT REPRESENTATIVE (SAR) LETTER OF APPOINTMENT

School:	
Sport:	
Full Name of SAR: (as in NRIC / Passport)	
NRIC / Passport No.: (last 4 characters e.g. 234A)	
Name of Child / Ward:	
Mobile No.:	

#### **Terms and Conditions**

- 1. The above-mentioned is appointed as the SAR who shall represent the school in the National School Games competition for the sport and dates given only.
- 2. The SAR shall believe in and support the Council's mission, motto and aspirations and support the involvement of the students under their charge in the competitions and events with a strong educational focus.
- 3. The SAR shall perform the roles and responsibilities of the SAR including:
  - a. Representing of the school as a Team Manager (TM) (**Refer to Annex E** for the main roles and responsibilities of a TM.)
  - b. Attending all briefings and meetings conducted by the school for SAR.
  - c. Work and coordinate with PC, if any, to facilitate a good participation experience for all participants including:
    - Establishing contact with PC and keeping them informed on the competition schedules and other necessary information.
    - Ensuring that all participants are present and PC are present to oversee their own children's/ward's safety and well-being. SAR should contact the school coordinator for assistance immediately if they are unable to contact the PC and/or the participant.

- d. Being professional in the discharge of their duties. They should not bring along any other students or children who are not involved in the competition for that day so that they can more effectively discharge their duties.
- e. Observing and complying with all rules, policies, procedures, expectations, and codes of conduct of the School, Singapore Schools Sports Council (SSSC) and the applicable sporting body as may be issued from time to time.
- f. Take all necessary precautions to ensure the safety, security, health and wellbeing of the students under their charge.
- 4. The SAR shall declare to the school if he/she is under investigation for any criminal offence by any authority in Singapore or elsewhere or is facing disciplinary proceedings by any sporting body in Singapore or elsewhere.
- 5. Except with the written consent of the school, the SAR shall not disclose any information or material furnished by the school or make any statement or representation on behalf of the school to any media or any person not related to the NSG Organising Committee.
- 6. The SAR shall not make use of any information obtained directly or indirectly from the course of his/her duty, other than for the conduct of the NSG, unless prior written approval has been given by the school.
- 7. The SAR declares that, at the date of entering into this Agreement, there is no conflict of interest in the performance of this service, and of its obligations under this Agreement.
- 8. The appointment is subject to the meeting of the above terms and conditions and may be revoked by the school or SSSC if they are breached.

Name & Signature of SAR		Date
Name & Signature of Principal	School Stamp	Date

# **CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COACHES**

No	Description
1	Coaches must be good role models and are expected to conduct themselves well in carrying out their duties.
2	They are to observe the rules and regulations of the National School Games and honour the Coaches' Oath.
3	They should not replace the role of the Team Manager.
4	They are to prepare the training schedule for the team, in consultation with the Head of Department (HOD) and the teacher-in-charge (i.e. Student Development Programme).
5	It is the responsibility of coaches to adhere to the rules and to be well versed with the competition rules.
6	They are not allowed into the field of play except where the rule of the sport requires the presence of the coach.
7	They cannot represent the school in any matters.
8	They must not interfere with the organisation of the competition.
9	They are not allowed to approach the officials to query their decisions. Only Team Managers are allowed to approach officials to seek clarifications.
10	They must ensure that the student participants have adequate rest and are given water breaks.
11	Coaches should refrain from using foul language or speak in a tone not becoming of proper behaviour.
12	Coaches violating the rules will be asked to leave the competition arena.
13	Action will be taken against the school if the coaches fail to comply with the competition rules.

## **Equipment Standards for Fencing**

The following safety standards are to be followed and will be enforced by the referees:

Item	Minimum Safety Level	Additional Notes
Mask	CE 350N	Mask safety features must be intact and working well, without overstretched head strap.
		The mask must contain two different safety systems at the rear of the mask, with the two ends of the straps of the systems firmly affixed to the two sides of the mask  For mask with metallic tongue, the fastening system must be doubled: it must be closed with a double security system. This means that the Velcro has to be attached at least twice.  For mask without metallic tongue, the position of the main strap must be low enough to ensure that the mask cannot slide off. The strap must incorporate 3 fixing points and the use of a magnetic strap remains mandatory.  All Foilists are required to wear a Mask with a conductive bib. Sabre
		and Foil masks may not be used in the Epee event.
Jacket & Breeches	CE 350N	Jacket and Breeches, when worn, should overlap by an area at least 10cm long all around the trunk of the fencer. Zippers should be facing the non-weapon arm.
Chest Guard (Foil Only)	FIE Chest Guard	2023 NSG: For Men's Foil, no chest guard is to be worn. For Women's Foil, it is highly encouraged to wear the Chest Guard with the FIE soft covering.
		2023 NSG onwards: For Men's Foil, if a chest guard is worn, it must be a Chest Guard with the FIE soft covering. For Women's Foil, it is compulsory to wear the Chest Guard with the FIE soft covering.

		Fancing Singapara Fail Evente						
		Fencing Singapore Foil Events  Girls / Women  Boys / Men						
			C					
			Competitions	Chest Guard Only	Chest Guard with padding	Chest Guard Only	Chest Guard with padding	
		Participation	U10 & U12 Minime	Mandatory	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	
		comp	U14 Minime	Mandatory	Allowed	Not Allowed	Allowed	
		(Involving 13 years and	Novices National School	Mandatory Mandatory	Allowed Allowed	Not Allowed Not Allowed	Allowed Allowed	
		above	Games	ivialidatory	Allowed	Not Allowed	Allowed	
		participants) Ranking comp (Involving 13 years and above participants)	All Ranking Competition	Not Allowed	Mandatory	Not Allowed	Allowed	
Protective under- plastron	FIE 800N	*All chest guard to be worn below FIE plastron  It is compulsory for all competitors to wear FIE 800N under plastrons.  In all three weapons, each fencer is wearing, under his jacket, a regulation protective under- plastron, made of cloth which can resist 800 Newtons.						
Socks	None	Socks should be solid colour which cover the entire shin of the fencer and be overlapped by the Breeches just under the knee						
Gloves	None	Gloves should not have obvious holes in them. Sabre Cuff or Sabre Glove must be used for sabre events.						
Metallic Jackets	None	Zippers should be facing the non-weapon arm.						
		With accordance to the FIE Rules for Competitions: Fencers' Weapons & Equipment Control Document-						
		Foil: The conductive surface of the conductive over-jacket which is worn over the protective jacket must cover the valid target of the fencer entirely and without omission when in the on-guard position. The jacket must have a conductive flap, minimum 2 cm by 3 cm, near the middle of the back, just below the collar, to which the crocodile clip from the mask can be attached						
		Sabre: The fencer must wear, over his jacket, a conductive over- jacket, the conductive surface of which must cover entirely and without omission the valid surface of the body above a horizontal line which, when the fencer is on guard, joins, round the fencer's trunk, the tops of the two hip bones						
Weapons	None	Weapons should not be rusty						

Please note that the fencers will be required to submit the following parts of their equipment for checks prior to use in the competition:

- All masks for mask mesh integrity
  - Masks must pass the punch test
  - Masks must not be rusty and/or on the verge of failure
  - Masks should not have any mesh indentations
  - Masks with two independent, working security devices.
- Conductivity of metallic target areas
  - Foil/Sabre masks, Sabre cuffs, Sabre gloves, Foil/Sabre metallic jackets
  - These items should have a resistance of 50 ohms or less.
- > Foil/Sabre body cords and mask cables
  - All of these items should be in working order with no breakages or exposed wiring
  - Mask cables and Foil/Sabre body wires should have no tape covering the area connected to the crocodile clip
  - For mask cables and Foil/Sabre body cords, the crocodile clip should be firmly soldered to the correct wire
  - These items should have a resistance of 50 ohms or less

The equipment check area will be manned by designated armorers at the start of the competition for a limited time. Each fencer is only allowed a reasonable number of equipment and may be asked to re-join the queue or to return at a later time should there be too many equipment to be checked. Please present the equipment that needs checking in an orderly fashion early to avoid a rush. Equipment that has been checked and pass the tests will be marked by the armorers. Equipment that does not have the correct markings will not be permitted for usage for the competition.

**Reminder**: Competitors are also reminded to bring a spare weapon and spare body cord to be put at the side of the piste during their bout.

Please also be reminded that competitors' equipment can be rejected on the grounds of safety and poor maintenance.

Note: With reference to the FIE "List of decisions of the 2013 Congress", Fencing Singapore has decided, with effect from 2014, to ban the use of transparent visor masks for all weapons in all competitions.

\* Personal protective gear - All

Participants are equipped with the following:

FIE-compliant (800N) plastrons and minimum 350N fencing suit. (No torn fencing suit is allowed)

All masks must be intact and working well, without overstretched head strap. They must contain 2 different safety systems at the rear of the mask, with the 2 ends of the straps of the

systems firmly affixed to the 2 sides of the mask. For mask with metallic tongue, the fastening system must be doubled: it must be closed with a double security system. This means that the Velcro has to be attached at least twice. For mask without metallic tongue, the position of the main strap must be low enough to ensure that the mask cannot slide off. The strap must incorporate 3 fixing points and the use of a magnetic strap remains mandatory.

All masks used must be for the relevant events, i.e., no foil or sabre masks to be used in Epee event.

All foilists are required to wear a mask with a conductive bib and a restraining strip width of 1 inch

Jacket and Breeches, when worn, should overlap by an area at least 10cm long all around the trunk of the fencer. Zippers should be facing the nonweapon arm.

Shoes should be non-slip with soles that provide sufficient grip and traction on the floor.

Gloves should be long and firm enough to stretch and remain over the sleeve of the jacket whilst fencing.

For Men's Foil, if a chest guard is worn, it must be a Chest Guard with the FIE soft covering. For Women's Foil, it is compulsory to wear the Chest Guard with the FIE soft covering.

Socks should be solid colour which cover the entire shin of the fencer and be overlapped by the Breeches just under the knee.