

## NEW FIE mask rule

The FIE has released a new rule regarding fencing masks. The rule requires a double security system for the backstrap of the masks. You can read the rule here:

[http://static.fie.org/uploads/18/92466-15.1%20decision%20urgente%201%20m25\\_7m%20ang.pdf](http://static.fie.org/uploads/18/92466-15.1%20decision%20urgente%201%20m25_7m%20ang.pdf)

### Why?

Because in the past years, there have been several incidents when masks fell off during fencing.

### What is the reason for this?

There are more than one possible reasons. 1. The Velcro wears off after a while. 2. The back tongue of the mask is not bent properly. 3. Use of larger mask than one would need. 4. Change in the style of fencing. (more dynamic than before)

### What has changed?

Instead of one strap being fixed on the mask by Velcro on both sides:



A double Velcro system has been developed to provide better fastening that is held by a riveted loop on the side of the mask positioned lower than the old strap.



### What is the deadline for having the new system?

Fencers participating in Verona on the Junior & Cadet World Championships in April 2018 and in Wuxi on the Senior World Championships in July 2018 **must have a mask with the new system.**

From the beginning of season 2018-2019, the use of masks with the new system will be **compulsory on all FIE competitions.**

### What can I do with my mask if I don't want to buy a new one?

Old masks can be retrofitted to the new system by Crossed Swords Fencing Equipment, Manitoba, Canada as agents for PBT Hungary. For this you will need to return your mask to Crossed Swords. Masks can also be given to us at competitions for this service.

If you don't have a chance to get your mask retrofitted at a competition, **the mask will have to be returned to Crossed Swords Fencing Equipment, Manitoba, Canada or PBT, Hungary.**

You can find a link to this service here: <http://www.crossedswords.ca> Search for 'backstrap'.

### What are the costs?

Retrofitting service costs: \$25Cdn, plus applicable taxes and shipping. All shipping costs must be covered by the Customer. (including shipping to Winnipeg, Manitoba, or Hungary with return shipping depending upon your location).

**Attention!** It is the Fencer's responsibility to send only such mask that pass weapon control and are in good conditions. It is not our responsibility if a mask is retrofitted but subsequently fails weapon control for other reasons not in connection with the backstrap.

**Crossed Swords Fencing Equipment for PBT Hungary**