

2nd Tokyo International Fencing Competition (TIFC 2026) — Rulebook

Dates: Mon 17 – Thu 20 August 2026 / Venue: Keio Arena Tokyo Updated: 15 Aug 2026, 22:00

* On languages: The Japanese version of the competition guidelines is authoritative. Translations into English, Traditional Chinese, Korean and French are also published. Each translated version is provided to help overseas participants understand the content; in the event of any discrepancy in interpretation, the Japanese version takes absolute priority.

1. Weapons & Equipment

Common to all categories

- Short-sleeve protector (under-plastron): FIE-marked 800N required
- Mask: double-strap (FIE standard) required
 - Single-strap masks, or masks with straps loosened by rubber deterioration, are not permitted

By category

	U8 • U10 • U12	U14 • U17	Veterans • PV
Blade	No restriction	No restriction	No restriction
Mask	350N allowed (1600N recommended)	1600N	1600N
Uniform	350N allowed	800N recommended (350N allowed)	800N
Chest protector (women)	Required	Required	Required

Soft cover for women's chest protector

Weapon	U14 • U17 • Veterans • PV	U12 • U10 • U8
Foil	Required	Recommended
Épée	Recommended	Recommended
Sabre	Recommended	Recommended

Conductive jacket / lamé (foil • sabre)

- Each competitor must check the lamé size in advance in accordance with FIE regulations
- On the day, if the size is too small etc., the referee may refuse its use

Para fencing

- Conducted under IWAS (International Wheelchair Fencing Federation) regulations

Equipment check

- No advance weapon inspection
- Before the bout, the referee checks the uniform, protectors and mask on the piste for deterioration/damage
- If non-compliant, a yellow card is given and the equipment must be replaced with compliant gear

2. Épée Non-combativity Rule (P-card)

This competition applies the FIE regulations coming into effect next season. There is no P-yellow (warning); the procedure starts from the P-red.

Stage	Condition	Penalty
P-red	Non-combativity during the first 1 minute	1 touch to the opponent
P-black	Non-combativity during the next 1 minute	End of the bout

Determining the winner when the bout ends by P-black

- If there is a score difference: the fencer with more touches at that point wins
- If tied: the fencer ranked higher in the pools (qualification) wins

Scope

- Applies only to the épée direct-elimination tableau
- Does not apply to pools or team events

3. Competition Format

- Pools → direct-elimination tableau. All fencers advance to the tableau

Pools (qualification)

- 5 touches / one 3-minute period
- Round-robin within the pool; ranking by wins and touch indicator → reflected in the tableau seeding

Direct-elimination tableau

- 10 touches (two 3-minute periods)
- Single elimination
- No bout for 3rd place. The two semi-final losers are both 3rd

4. Team Event

- Team of 3: one each at foil, épée and sabre (relay match)
- Three matches are held; the first team to 2 wins takes it (all 3 matches are held even after 2 wins are secured)

Order of matches

- Pools: épée → foil → sabre (fixed)
- Tableau: on the day, the referee rolls a die and the order is set per the table below

Die	Match 1	Match 2	Match 3
1	Foil	Épée	Sabre
2	Foil	Sabre	Épée
3	Épée	Foil	Sabre
4	Épée	Sabre	Foil
5	Sabre	Foil	Épée
6	Sabre	Épée	Foil

5. On the Day of Competition

All bout management is handled via Fencing Time. Scheduling, draws, scheduled start times and results are shown on Fencing Time. Fencers and accompanying persons should check it themselves via a web browser at any time.

Before bouts start

- Check-in: at the reception desk (required each day and for each category)
- Assembly at the call area (foyer beside the arena / next to the concierge): carried out by the younger categories U17 and below (U17 • U14 • U12 • U10 • U8)
 - Assembly times are given in the separate timetable
- PV • Veterans • Para: no assembly. Check Fencing Time and go to your piste yourself
- Absent after 2 calls → withdrawal

Pools

- Round-robin
- A bout is officially over when both fencers shake hands
- After finishing, check the pool sheet and sign. Check wins/losses and scores carefully
 - No corrections are possible after signing
- After the pools, do not return to the spectator seats; wait near the competition area (waiting area, changing rooms, etc.)
 - The tableau starts about 30 minutes after the pools of that category finish

Direct-elimination tableau

- Check your piste and scheduled start time on Fencing Time
- A bout is officially over when both fencers shake hands

Operations

- Final decisions rest with the organizers and referees
- Reception opening/closing times do not change, but bout start times may be moved earlier or later

6. Awards Ceremony

- Held on the podium
- Medals: to 3rd place (two 3rd places)
- Certificates: to 8th place
- Timing to be announced separately
- During the ceremony, all bouts are temporarily suspended

7. Venue, Spectating & Other

Spectating

- Tableau: only fencers involved and their accompanying coach may enter the designated bench area
- Pools: spectating is not allowed on the arena floor (inside the competition area)

Filming

- Within restricted areas: only fixed-tripod video with no operator present
- In the spectator seats: photos and video are freely allowed
- No video review. Protesting a decision is not allowed. The referee's ruling is final

AD pass (entry permit)

- The AD pass takes the form of a wristband
- A different-colored wristband is issued each day
- Issued to the competitor plus 1 accompanying person
- The application method for an accompanying person's pass will be advised by the secretariat
- Entry outside designated areas is prohibited

Use of the venue

- Use the gymnasium changing rooms
- Place your belongings where directed by reception
- Entry to the competition area is limited to fencers and holders of an AD pass (wristband)
- Manage valuables yourself
- Uncovered drinks are prohibited on the arena floor and in restricted areas (violations may result in loss of the right to compete, among other measures)
- Other groups and general users are also present; please use the facility considerately

Practice (sub-arena)

- Practice takes place in the sub-arena. Practice is not allowed in the main arena
- Practicing with a weapon in the foyer, lobby, etc. is strictly prohibited

- Use the scoring machines in turn; do not monopolize them
- Commercial use such as private lessons is prohibited
- When practicing or coaching with a weapon, a uniform or coaching protector must be worn; any other practice found will be asked to stop

Venue announcements

- Main-arena announcements are relayed to the sub-arena, foyer and changing rooms (not to meeting rooms)
- They are used for various calls and competition-related information

Concierge

- A concierge is set up in the foyer beside the arena
- If you cannot find your piste, do not know your start time, cannot find a location in the venue, etc., fencers should come to the concierge and we will assist

8. Safety, Insurance & Personal Data

Health management (participant's responsibility)

- If you have a chronic condition (heart disease, arrhythmia, diabetes, hypertension, epilepsy, respiratory disease, etc.), consult your doctor in advance and decide whether to participate
- If you have a history of fainting, loss of consciousness, chest pain, palpitations, extreme shortness of breath, etc., a prior medical examination is recommended
- If unwell (dizziness, chest pain, palpitations, breathing difficulty, numbness, dehydration, fever, extreme fatigue, etc.), refrain from competing or withdraw partway
- If symptoms appear, stop immediately and notify the nearest staff member
- The final decision on participation rests with the participant

Scope of liability & insurance

- The organizer provides first aid but is not liable for accidents arising from pre-existing conditions or ill health
- After emergency transport, treatment and costs are borne by the participant
- Fencers and coaches should each take out accident and personal liability insurance

Personal data & filming

- Personal data collected is used only for competition operations
- Photos/footage taken at the venue may be used for display, entry lists, results, competition reports, etc.