

European Veterans Individual Fencing Championships
Thionville, France
17th-21st May 2023



Information

Venue - Complexe Sportif la Milliaire, 71 Rue Paul Albert, 57100 Thionville, France.

Event website:

<https://www.europeanveteransfencing-thionville2023.eu>

The European Individual Championships are open entry, with no limit on numbers, so it is an ideal opportunity to fence at a major international event. If you have not been to a European Championships before, it is a thoroughly recommended experience, even if you are relatively new to fencing. All weapons are fenced in age groups:

Cat 1 40-49, Cat 2 50-59, Cat 3 60-69, Cat 4 70+. Age is at 31/12/2023.

Format:

Pools of 6 or 7 fencers, bouts of 5 hits of 3 minutes. After the pools, direct elimination to 10 hits, 2 rounds of 3 minutes, with one minute pause between each round. Sabre: 1 minute pause after 5 hits. If there are fewer than 10 fencers in a category: Single pool. No elimination after the pools.

Schedule here:

[Programme - EUROPEAN VETERANS FENCING \(europeanveteransfencing-thionville2023.eu\)](https://www.europeanveteransfencing-thionville2023.eu)

Full details i.e. start times to follow.

Weapon control will be the day before each weapon, so make sure your travel arrangements allow for you to be there at least one day before you are fencing. Opening times have not been published yet but there will be evening sessions.

Eligibility

Full eligibility rules can be found here:

[champs_handbook-2019.pdf \(veteransfencing.eu\)](https://www.veteransfencing.eu/champs_handbook-2019.pdf)

Equipment

- All equipment must be in good condition and working order, complying with FIE regulations
- It is mandatory that your surname and GBR is printed on the back of your lamé (foil and sabre) or jacket (epee) The print must be dark blue and the size of the letters between 8 and 10 cm high. All prints must be legible.
- It is recommended, but not mandatory, that you have national colours on your breeches and foil/epee jacket.
- All the logos and marks of the manufacturer logos must be in conformity with FIE requirements.

Thionville

Thionville is situated in North West France on the left bank of the River Moselle, in the heart of the 'Land of the Three Borders', a region grouping France, Germany and Luxembourg. You can find more information and tourist options on the event website.

[Nearby tourism - EUROPEAN VETERANS FENCING \(europeanveteransfencing-thionville2023.eu\)](http://europeanveteransfencing-thionville2023.eu)



Photo – event website



How to get there

You can search for all travel options on <https://www.rome2rio.com/> but some options are as follows:

Air

Luxembourg Airport is the nearest airport. Transfers will be provided by the organisers. Details will be published on the event website.

Luxair offer flights from London City Airport -
[Luxair: Official Site – Book Direct Flights to 90+ Destinations from 89€](#)

Ryanair direct from Birmingham, Stansted -
[Official Ryanair website | Book direct for the lowest fares | Ryanair.com](#)

British Airways from Heathrow - <https://www.britishairways.com>

Driving

The distance from Calais to Thionville, avoiding toll charges by driving mostly through Belgium, is 276 miles with a driving time of approximately 4.5 hours (without stops).

Driving through France via A46 would incur toll costs of approximately 40 Euros each way.

[France Toll Calculator - TollGuru](#)

Suggested route (AA) avoiding tolls is below:



Remember to check before you leave the UK that you comply with driving laws for France and Belgium, and any other country that you might be visiting:

[Driving in France | AA \(theaa.com\)](http://theaa.com)

[Driving in Europe | AA \(theaa.com\)](http://theaa.com)

Eurotunnel - [Eurotunnel: Folkestone To Calais In 35 Minutes. Book Now!](https://www.eurotunnel.com)
 Ferries - <https://www.directferries.co.uk/>

Car sharing

If you are interested in sharing the car journey you can post an offer or request on the Facebook group Veteran Fencers Car Share:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/653848543130024>

Please note that this is a public group so do not share personal details such as your postal address, email address or phone number.

If you are not a Facebook user, you can email me and I will post for you and take private messages on your behalf.

Rail

Eurostar from London St Pancras to Lille or Paris, then SNCF or bus to Thionville.

[Eurostar.com: Book Europe Train Tickets and Holidays](http://eurostar.com)

[SNCF Connect: Book your SNCF, bus and carpooling tickets \(OUI.sncf\) \(sncf-connect.com\)](http://sncf-connect.com)

Accommodation

Hotels are filling fast and there is limited accommodation in Thionville, so if you have not already booked, don't delay. There will not be an official GBR hotel as there will be too many of us.

List of accommodation here: [Accommodation - EUROPEAN VETERANS FENCING \(europeanveteransfencing-thionville2023.eu\)](https://europeanveteransfencing-thionville2023.eu)

If you are driving, please note that for most hotels car parking is not free. Shuttle buses will be provided for hotels that are more than 15 minutes' walk away from the venue. Details to follow from organisers.

Insurance

Ensure that you have adequate travel and health insurance which includes fencing and Covid, and if driving, breakdown insurance. Sports Cover Direct offers travel insurance with fencing cover, or a bolt-on to existing travel insurance that does not cover fencing. [Fencing Insurance - Get A Quote | SportsCover Direct](#)

Entries

Entries must be made through BVF. Entry forms and further information will be sent out soon, with details of payment.

The cost of weapon entry, set by EVF, is as follows:

1 weapon –	85 Euros
2 weapons –	120 Euros
3 weapons –	155 Euros

This includes a fee towards the cost of referees.

The BVF Treasurer, Paul, has been keeping a close eye on Euro exchange rate and will provide the £ cost to be paid to BVF. There will be a £25 management levy, which will be used for TM costs and any BVF admin costs incurred with this event. There will not be a charge for accompanying persons by BVF nor by the organisers for accreditation. Whilst BVF does not seek to make a profit, any surplus will go towards costs for the World Championships (TM/team entry fees/BVF admin).

Entries will be open for registration from *14th February – 11th April*. **Late entries will not be accepted by the organisers.** If you need to cancel your registration you must let me know before 1st May so that I can notify the organisers. 1st May is the cut-off date for refunds of entry fee. No refunds will be made by the organisers for cancellations notified after this date.

Once entries are open and the process starts, you will be able to see who has entered (link to follow).

Tracksuits

The BVF committee is currently looking to replace the existing tracksuit, to be available for Thionville, but it will not be compulsory to purchase a new one. Details to follow.

I hope that the information in this document is comprehensive and useful. In the meantime, until more information is available, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns or questions – g.aghajan@btinternet.com



Gillian Aghajan
GBR Team Manager