

European Individual Championships - information

The European Veterans Fencing Individual Championships are being held in Plovdiv, Bulgaria, from 28th May – 1st June 2025.

The venue is:

International Fair Plovdiv

Plovdiv 4003

Tasar Boris III Obedinitel Blvd 37

[International Fair Plovdiv](#)

This is an open entry event for all weapon categories, in age groups (no selection). Age is at 31st December 2025. You must have a BF compete licence and be a member of BVF.

Eligibility

Each competitor must be a citizen or subject of a constitutional part of Europe as defined by the European Fencing Confederation.

An eligible competitor must be registered to the European Veterans Fencing Championships by his/her National federation or an adequate official Veterans organisation.

An eligible competitor may represent the country of his or her birth provided that he or she is a citizen or subject of that country.

If an eligible competitor wishes to represent a European country other than that of his or her birth, he or she must have been ordinarily resident in that country for a minimum continuous period of twelve months during the twenty four months prior to the closing date of the entries to the European Veterans Fencing Championships concerned.

Where a competitor has already competed in the European Championships for one celebration of the Championships he or she may represent another European country at a future celebration provided that they are eligible, with the approval of the EVF and written permission of the fencing federation for the country for whom the participant is registering to compete.

If a fencer has multiple nationalities he/she may choose the country he/she wishes to represent.

An eligible competitor must produce a valid passport or identity card (for identification, proof of European Citizenship and confirmation of date of birth) and, if fencing for a country other than of his or her birth, proof of ordinary residence for the required period in that country.

Official invitation (see for full details)

[Microsoft PowerPoint - MainInvitation18.02 \[568< =0 AJ2<5AB8<>AB\]](#) (There is not an event website as yet.)

Travel

Plovdiv is the second largest city in Bulgaria, situated in the west of the Bulgarian part of Thrace. There is an airport, with limited flights from the UK. Sofia is the closest main airport, which is just over 90 miles from Plovdiv.

Check options here: [Rome2Rio: discover how to get anywhere](#)

British passport holders do not need a visa. Bulgaria follows Schengen area rules.

Transfers and accommodation

There will be a shuttle bus service provided by the organisers to official hotels. This is available to those who are staying at one of the official hotels listed in the official invitation: [Microsoft PowerPoint - MainInvitation18.02 \[568<=0AJ2<5AB8<>AB\]](#)

I have asked the organisers if this includes those who have made independent bookings at official hotels and am waiting for a response. Designated hotel for GBR is the **Grand Plovdiv**, but there is no obligation to stay here.

Hotel accommodation and airport shuttles can be booked here:

<https://www.veteransfencing.eu/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/MainInvitation17.02.ppt>
(You will need to download the file and make it editable – include dates.)

Government travel advice

You can find full advice/information here:

[Bulgaria travel advice - GOV.UK](#) and sign for email updates <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/bulgaria/email-signup>

Crime

Protecting yourself and your belongings

Take sensible precautions to protect yourself from street crime, particularly in larger cities and late at night. Beware of any attempts to distract you. Watch out for pickpockets and bag thefts in tourist areas, on buses and trains and major public transport hubs, including airports.

For those hiring a car: Thefts from unattended cars at petrol stations have increased. Lock your car when going inside the petrol station to pay for your fuel.

Criminals may puncture your tyres or flag down your car. When you get out, the thieves can distract you and steal from your vehicle. Make sure the boot is locked and your luggage is secure.

Lock valuables in hotel safe.

Currency

The official currency in Bulgaria is the Bulgarian Lev. In stores and restaurants, the currency symbol **лв** is used.

The current exchange rate is:

BGN лв. - Bulgarian Lev	⇄	GBP £ - Pound Sterling
1.00		0.42

Registration

All entries must be made by BVF (me). Please complete, sign and return the registration form (by email or post). I will submit your entry within 5 days of payment to BVF being confirmed (once registration is open). Photos for accreditation will be taken from the EVF database. I will email you if EVF does not have your photo.

Entry costs are as follows:

1 weapon £105, 2 weapons £140, 3 weapons £175)

These costs include BVF levy of £25. (BVF reserves the right to request a small additional cost if the Euro/pound exchange rate changes drastically.)

You do not require a FIE licence as it is not a FIE event, but FIE rules are closely followed, including equipment rules.

Equipment

EVF Handbook of Regulations here: [EVF-Championships-Handbook-May-2024.pdf](#)

See 3.5 (page 21).

It is compulsory to have SURNAME and GBR on your lamé (foil and sabre)/jacket (epee).

The wearing of national colours is strongly recommended but not compulsory.

These can be purchased from Leon Paul:

[GBR Leg Patch](#)

[GBR Arm Patch](#)



Requirements for each weapon

Foil fencers

2 leg and 2 arm patches

Epee fencers

2 leg and 1 arm patch, to go on the back, non-sword arm.

Sabre fencers

2 leg patches only (Arm patches are not required).

Inscriptions, Entry fees & Weapon Control

Weapon Control

The weapon control schedule is:

27.05.2025	10:00 - 19:00	30.05.2025	08:00 - 19:00
28.05.2025	08:00 - 19:00	31.05.2025	08:00 - 19:00
29.05.2025	08:00 - 19:00	01.06.2025	08:00 - 19:00

Equipment for control:

Weapon	Max 4	Pants	Max 2
Electric jacket	Max 2	Under plastron	Max 2
Mask	Max 2	Body wire	Max 3
Glove	Max 2	Mask wire	Max 3
Jacket	Max 2	chest protectors (foil)	Max 2

Weapon control and confirmation of participation must be made the day before at 7:00 pm at the latest. It is possible for one fencer to give different weapons for checkup at the same time. We will use containers for weapon control. The time that fencers need to wait from the check in moment to the finished weapon control depends on the number of fencers that came at the same time and the types of weapon that are controlled. It is usually between 10 to 15 minutes.

Schedule

Date	Competition	Date	Competition
27 May	Referees Meeting Heads of Delegation Meeting 17.00 – 19.00 Congress (International Fair, Press center beside the venue)	30 May	Epee Men V1 (Poules) Epee Men V2 (Poules) Epee Women V1 Foil Men V3 Sabre Women V3 Sabre Men V4
28 May	Epee Men V3 (Poules) Epee Women V3 Foil Men V2 Foil Men V4 Sabre Women V1 Sabre Women V4 Opening Ceremony	31 May	Epee Men V1 (TED) Epee Men V2 (TED) Foil Women V3 Foil Women V4 Sabre Women V2
29 May	Epee Men V3 (TED) Epee Men V4 Foil Women V1 Foil Women V2 Sabre Men V1	1 June	Epee Women V2 Epee Women V4 Foil Men V1 Sabre Men V2 Sabre Men V3 Closing Ceremony

* Fencers must be present on their piste **10 minutes before start time of their poule**. Each event may begin at 09:00. Precise starting times will be defined at 19:00 the day before.

* Please note that the V1, V2 and V3 men's epees will take place with their poules on first day, tableaux on second day.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me – g.aghajan@btinternet.com , or you can use the WhatsApp group.



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