

Team Matches

A team match is between two teams of three fencers (each team may have an optional reserve), and the format is called a 45-touch relay. Every fencer fences a 3-minute bout against each fencer on the other team. As there are three fencers on each team, there are nine bouts in a match. As with pools, the order of the bouts is set in advance.

The first bout ends when either team has five touches, or time expires. The second bout starts with the score where it was at the end of the first bout (that's what makes it a relay) and continues until either team has a total of 10 touches or time expires. The third bout continues until either team has 15 touches, the fourth until 20 touches and so on.

The ninth bout continues until one team has 45 touches. If time expires first, the team that is ahead is the winner. If the score is tied when time expires in the ninth bout, the same two fencers fence an extra one minute "sudden death" period with priority.

Except in the ninth bout, it is okay for the score to be tied at the end of a bout. It is also okay for both teams to reach the target number of touches. For example, if the score is 14-14 in the third bout and there is a double-touch, the score goes to 15-15 and the bout ends.

Team Match Scoresheet				Bout 5		TWE		
Team Women's Epee				Time 11:00 AM		Bout ID #144		
Tournament: Team Championship Date: Saturday, February 4, 2017 Match: Table of 8, bout #1 of 4								
Lassiter				vs.	Centennial			
4: Hutchison, Maddie 5: Petteway, Rose 6: Aydin, Derya Res: Little, Jasmine				1: Harrison, Sarah 2: Howard, Cursten 3: Katz, Simone Res: Fritts, Maggie				
#	Fencer	Touches	Score	Score	Touches	Fencer	#	
6	Aydin, Derya	III 3	3	5	5	Katz, Simone	3	
5	Petteway, Rose	I 1	4	10	5	Harrison, Sarah	1	
4	Hutchison, Maddie	III 3	7	15	5	Howard, Cursten	2	
6	Aydin, Derya					Harrison, Sarah	1	
4	Hutchison, Maddie					Katz, Simone FRITTS, MAGGIE	3	
5	Petteway, Rose					Howard, Cursten	2	
4	Hutchison, Maddie					Harrison, Sarah	1	
6	Aydin, Derya					Howard, Cursten	2	
5	Petteway, Rose					Katz, Simone FRITTS, MAGGIE	3	
Final Score		Final Score		Final Score		Final Score		
Winners		Referees		Signatures				
		Referee 1						
		Referee 2						
Captains		Assist						
Petteway, Rose		Assist						
Fritts, Maggie								

On the left is an example score sheet for a match in progress. From top to bottom, it shows which fencers compete in each of the nine bouts. The scorekeeper may keep track of touches scored in each bout in the box headed "Touches". At the end of each bout the current cumulative score must be entered in the box headed "Score" (this is required).

Remember that the number of touches required to end the bout increases by five each bout even if scoring has been low. For example, if the fifth bout starts with the score at 16-17, the fencers are still fencing to 25 and not 20. The scorekeeper has written the numbers 5, 10, 15, etc. down the middle as a reminder of the target score for each bout.

Also in the example, the team on the right has made a substitution. Beginning in the fifth bout, Maggie Fritts will replace Simone Katz. The captain must tell the referee of the substitution before the start of the bout prior to the first one that the reserve will fence (in this case, before the fourth bout). The referee should pass the information to the opposing captain who might also decide to make a substitution. The captain may substitute the reserve for another fencer after any bout, or immediately in the case of an injury. However, the fencer who comes out may not fence again in the same match.

At the end of the match, the final scores are entered in the box that says "Final Score", the team captains, the referee and the scorekeeper sign the sheet at the bottom, and the scorekeeper takes it to the scoring table.

The Team Captain's Responsibilities

Decide who fences when

Before each match begins, Fencing Time randomly decides which team will be team A (with fencers numbered 1, 2, 3) and which will be team B (with fencers numbered 4, 5, 6). The fencers will fence each other in the following order:

3 vs. 6, 1 vs. 5, 2 vs. 4, 1 vs. 6, 3 vs. 4, 2 vs. 5, 1 vs. 4, 2 vs. 6, 3 vs. 5.

Note that for team A, the fencer who fences the last bout (fencer number 3) also fences the first bout. For team B, the fencer who fences the last bout (fencer number 5) also fences the second bout.

Each captain is given a team tracking form that follows the team throughout the tournament. Here is an example:

Team Tracking Form		Team Women's Epee		TWE				
		Tournament: Team Championship Date: Saturday, February 4, 2017 - 9:00 AM						
Lassiter				Seed 13				
Captain:		Petteway, Rose						
Team members:		Class/Rank	Affiliations					
Aydin, Derya			LS					
Hutchison, Maddie			LS					
Little, Jasmine			LS					
Petteway, Rose			LS					
Tableau	Opponent Team	Strip Time	A/B	Aydin, Derya	Hutchison, Maddie	Little, Jasmine	Petteway, Rose	Captain's Initials
W 16	DUNWOODY	5 9:30	1-3 4-6	R	1	2	3	RP
W 8	CENTENNIAL	5 11:00	1-3 4-6	6	4	R	5	RP
			1-3 4-6					
Match order: 3-6 1-5 2-4 1-6 3-4 2-5 1-4 2-6 3-5								

You will see that the table has a column for each fencer and a row for each match. The captain enters a number for each fencer in the starting lineup and "R" (for reserve) for the fourth fencer (if there is one). The order of the bouts is listed at the bottom of the form (under the heading "Match order").

In the first match, this team was Team A ("1-3" is circled in the "A/B" column) and Maddie fenced in the 1 slot, Jasmine was in the 2 slot and Rose was in the 6 slot, with Derya as the reserve.

In the second match, the team is team B ("4-6" is circled) and Maddie fences in the number 4 slot, Rose number 5, Derya number 3 with Jasmine in reserve.

The captain fills in the row for the current match only (it is okay to take the form away for a few minutes to get advice) and returns the form to the scorer who enters

the information and prints out the score sheets. There should be three copies of the score sheet, one for the referee and one for each team. The captain should have someone (perhaps the reserve) track the score on the team's copy of the score sheet.

Make substitutions (if the team has a fourth fencer)

During a match, the captain can decide to substitute the reserve for any of the fencers on the team. The captain must tell the referee of the substitution before the start of the bout before the first one that the reserve will fence. If a fencer is injured during a bout and is unable to continue, the reserve (if available) takes over from the point of the injury. Once the reserve starts fencing, the fencer who was substituted for cannot fence again in the same match. That means that if an injured fencer cannot continue and the reserve has already been used in that match, the team will lose the match.