



Anton Krieger

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## Report on veteran fencing in Switzerland 2019/20

As small country we don't have a lot of veterans and above all, a great part of the Category I (40+)-Fencers not look as veterans (they will still fence with the seniors).

About 100 veterans in the 4 categories take part of the "Circuit national veterans" and this essentially in epee (the principal weapon in Switzerland). A very few parts of veterans will fight very successful with the foil (European- and World champion) and the sabre.

An unknown number of veterans are practising fencing in the Swiss-clubs, but they won't participate at the tournaments ("fencing for pleasure" and "just take it easy").

Swiss-Fencing is organizing about 10 tournaments for the veterans each season and have also tournaments in France and Italy in the calendar (also as qualifying tournaments for the European- and World Championships and for take more experience). Each season Swiss-Fencing is also organizing the Swiss-Championships for veterans in epee (not enough fencers in the other weapons).

Outside of the "Circuit National Veterans" several Swiss clubs are organizing "Friendship"-tournaments.

Due to the Covid-19-virus the season 2019/20 was stopped unexpected in march 2020 and a lot of tournaments in Switzerland, Italy and France and also championships (Swiss championship epee, European Team championships) are cancelled or postponed. The training in all Swiss clubs has been suspended until further notice.

For this reason, I think the realization of the World championship in October 2020 in Porec is uncertain and not to be recommended.

At the European Championships 2019 in Cognac we had 39 Swiss-Veterans in 48 competitions (9 fencers with 2 weapons). And the results were very pleasing: 1 European champion epee, cat. 1, woman and 1 European champion foil, cat. 2, men.

At the World championships 2019 in Cairo we had 11 participants in the 3 weapons and also there with a great success: World champion foil, cat. A, men.

And not least we have with Ms Isabella Tarchini-Ibranyan the "2020 Fencer of the Year" in epee, cat. 1.

We hope, the next season 2020/21 will be more "normally"!

Thanks for all and with best wishes from Switzerland

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