

## VETERAN FENCING IN FINLAND 2021

The number of veteran fencers in Finland have been increasing the paste years and as a result of increased interest also for veteran championships a new veteran ranking system and selection criteria for championships was finalized in 2018.

The good development stopped in March 2020 as the pandemic started. Almost all Finnish veteran fencing activities have been down since then. No national veteran competitions have been arranged since beginning of 2020 and the 2020 Veterans Finnish Championships were also cancelled. Club trainings in very small groups was allowed 1.6. – 30.11.2021 but since 1.12.2021 no adult hobby sport has been allowed inside in most of our country.

Now since 1.7. 2021 indoor sport halls have again opened for adult hobby sports and we need to rebuild the activities. We hope not too many veteran fencers have left fencing for something else.

Team Finland at the 2021 Veteran World Championships in Florida will be much smaller than in the past. Reasons for not participating are many:

- Some veterans have suffered the Covid 19 and are still not in shape.
- Younger veterans and the ones who have suffered covid-19 have not yet received full vaccination.
- Some veterans do not want to compete right after such a long brake from trainings (large risk for injuries)
- Some veterans just do not want to travel and take any risks in these uncertain times.

We are looking forward to 2022 European Championships!

Helsinki 2.7.2021



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Lena Tallroth-Kock  
Secretary General

