

Annual Country Report from Finland

The 2023 Annual Country Report from Finland highlights the recovery and progress in training and competition for veteran fencers. After overcoming the disruptions caused by the pandemic, 2023 marked an increase in the number of veteran fencers, with participants competing in both national and international arenas.

Key international competitions for Finnish veteran fencers in 2023 included:

- The European Veteran Fencing Championships in Thionville, France, in May
- The Nordic Championships in Kääriku, Estonia, in August
- The EVF (epee only) in Turku, Finland, in September
- The World Championships in Daytona Beach, USA, in October

At the European Veteran Fencing Championships in Thionville, Finland was represented by 23 fencers with 31 starts across various weapons and categories. Finnish competitors secured three gold medals and one bronze medal.

During the World Championships in Daytona Beach, Finland was represented by four fencers, earning one gold and one silver medal.

In December, the Finnish Veterans Individual and Team Championships took place in Porvoo, southern Finland. Due to limited participation, individual competitions in women's foil and saber were not held. There were only sufficient teams to compete in both men's and women's epee.

Training and competition activities have resumed normally in 2024. Clubs are actively working to expand their membership. The Finnish Fencing and Pentathlon Federation hosted an epee fencing camp and team sparring session for veterans and seniors in late April, with 20 participants. The camp is scheduled to be held biannually, in autumn prior to the World Championships and in spring before the European Championships.

From February 1st to 2nd, 2025, Oulun Miekkailuseura will host an open international veterans competition for all weapon categories in Levi, Lapland. The club has submitted an application for the event to be recognized as part of the EVF Circuit. Regardless of the decision on the application, the competition will proceed as planned.

We are eagerly anticipating the European Team Championships in 2024.

Yours sincerely,

Helsinki, Finland, April 29, 2024



Minna Lehtola, Secretary General
tel. +358 (0) 50 3362464
secretary.general@fencing-pentathlon.fi

