

1. Federation:

Georgian Veterans Fencing Federation - GVFF

2. What is the structure of veterans movement in your country?

The Veteran Fencing Movement in Georgia was officially established in 2015 and legally registered as the Georgian Veterans Fencing Federation, which represents the Georgian Veteran Fencers at international competitions. It is a member organization of the Georgian Fencing Federation and its activities are based on the rules and regulations of the FIE. The members of the Federation elect a President, Vice-President, Secretary General and members of the Board for a four-year term. In November 2024, Zurab Bokuchava was elected President.

3. How many veteran's fencers are registered in your Federation?

There are 47 veteran fencers registered in our federation.

4. What is the competition system in veterans in your country?

Since the number of veteran fencers in our country is small, we hold tournaments with the following system - all age groups together in each weapon, according to the handicap principle - up to 10 points, one point in favor of each older age, but no more than three. For example, if 40+ meets 70+, the starting score is 3:0, in favor of 70+.

5. How many veteran tournaments are organised every year?

We hold four official tournaments throughout the year: two national championships - spring and autumn, based on the results of which we select teams for the European and World Championships, the Georgian Cup, and the Christmas-New Year tournament at the end of December. In addition, internal club tournaments are also held.

6. How many clubs participate in the veterans age category?

Most of the veteran fencers are in Tbilisi, we have a few in Kutaisi, Batumi and Rustavi. Only in Tbilisi is there a club called "Basa".

7. What is the main motivation to compete in veterans in your country?

The main motivation among veterans in our country is maintaining a healthy lifestyle, enthusiasm and love for fencing. Of course, participation in international competitions is also a great motivation .

8. How many veteran's fencers participate in the EVF tournaments?

min. 2 - max 10

9. What is the annual budget for veterans?

In order to fulfill the annual plan of local sports events and participate in only three international tournaments, we need a budget of at least 45,000 euros. Unfortunately, in our country, there is a frivolous attitude towards veterans, it is believed that our sports activities are a thing of the past and these tournaments are more of a pastime. No one gives us money, neither the Ministry of Sports, nor the Georgian Fencing Federation, nor the relevant departments of the City Hall, nor do we have donor organizations and sponsors, so it is very difficult for us to determine in advance how many international

tournaments we will participate in. An example of this is the European Championship in Plovdiv. It is a pity, but due to lack of funds, we cannot participate in the championship. The majority of veterans are no longer able to go to competitions on their own, especially when this happens several times a year. Currently, the only source of income for the Veterans Federation is membership fees and donations.

10. Would you prefer to compete in individual and team European Championships every year?

Yes, it would be better if the European team and individual championships were held every year.

11. Other comments:

This is the reality that will better reflect the veterans' movement in our country. I am not deliberately embellishing the situation in order to better reflect the problem, which I think is not only in our country. I am ready to answer any questions you may have.

With respect,

Zurab Bokuchava,

President of GVFF.