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## The German Fencing Federation bans the mask with transparent vizor

**During its conference on November 13, the executive committee of the German Fencing Federation has decided to ban the mask with transparent vizor at once from all tournaments of the German Fencing Federation in all disciplines.**

This decision is valid until the F.I.E. has clarified all relevant aspects of security of the transparent mask. All tournaments of the F.I.E. and EFC/EEC are excluded from this decision, but the German Fencing Federation recommends abandoning the use of the mask with transparent vizor at these tournaments, too.

During the conference of the executive committee on November 14 in Leipzig, this decision was supported by all presidents of the National Associations. The organisers of German tournaments are advised to refer to this interdiction in their future announcements.

During the European Junior Championships in Odense in early November, a mask with transparent vizor had been pierced by a faultless foil during a combat. Fortunately, the fencer was only slightly hurt, and he could continue the combat after a short medical treatment. This mask was confiscated at once, and it was handed over to Eduardo Dos Santos, president of the F.I.E. SEMI-commission.

At present, the damaged mask is checked in a French institute in Toulouse regarding material defect or inappropriate use. The president of the F.I.E., Alisher Usmanov, gave his view in an official letter, and he stopped the obligation of wearing the transparent mask at all F.I.E. tournaments in the foil disciplines as from now.

"Up to the result of the investigation, we stop the obligation of wearing the transparent mask in the foil disciplines" said Alisher Usmanov. Max Geuter, member of the executive committee of the F.I.E., added: "The circumstances of the accident in Odense will be clarified. The F.I.E. and the EFC will do anything to avoid further accidents."

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