

CLASSICAL ACADEMY OF ARMS



CLASSICAL FENCING INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT AND CREDENTIALING PROGRAM

1 JANUARY 2017

Fourth Revision

Copyright 2017 by Walter G. Green III. All rights reserved. Permission is granted to registered users of the Classical Academy of Arms Skill Development Program to reproduce charts from this document for distribution to fencing coaches and students participating in the Skill Development Program.

Published by
The Classical Academy of Arms
P. O. Box 799
Glen Allen, Virginia 23060-0799
<http://classicalacademyofarms.org>
[wgreen@ classicalacademyofarms.org](mailto:wgreen@classicalacademyofarms.org)
804-798-7744

I. PHILOSOPHY

Background: Classical fencing is a diverse sporting activity, pursued in a small number of active fencing clubs in the United States with no standard agreement as to the period, technique, or training methods covered by the term “classical” (except that it is not modern electric competitive fencing). There is no national governing body, and although there are occasional club to club meetings for the purpose of fencing and exhibitions staged by clubs to show the artistic accomplishments of their students with controlled assaults (bouts in which no score is kept), there is no organized national competitive structure. Much of the genesis of classical fencing in the 1990s was as a negative reaction to modern competitive fencing, and as such it has never become a significant element of the overall fencing community. The Classical Academy of Arms believes that classical fencing has a legitimate place in fencing today and pursues a cooperative approach to a wider audience of coaches and fencers.

Philosophy: The Classical Academy of Arms believes that fencing using classical technique has value in providing disciplined training in point and blade control and management of tempo for modern competitive fencers, in providing a framework for adult recreational fencing (which we believe is an underserved population), in enabling serious study of historical fencing methods, and in the training of fencing coaches in the theory of the sport.

Mission of the Academy: The mission of the Classical Academy of Arms is to provide training, credentialing, and support services for individuals who teach and train athletes to fence in keeping with the practice of the classical period.

Focus: Our focus is Classical Fencing, defined as fencing, dry or steam (without electrical scoring), with Foil, Dueling Sword (Epee), or Sabre, using the techniques and commonly accepted rules of the period 1880 through 1939.

Vision: To serve as the center for the preservation of classical fencing technique through research and training of instructors capable of teaching period technique to recreational and competitive fencers.

Values:

We uphold the classical values of honor to arms and respect for the Masters. We understand our responsibility to the Masters of the classical period to represent their teaching accurately and to keep their names and contributions to fencing alive.

We commit to researching, documenting, understanding, and teaching the use of the sword in the classical period as reflected in the record of fencing manuals and other contemporary evidence.

We understand that the quest for excellence in training instructors in sport requires dedication to continuous learning and continuous improvement. We demand that of ourselves, and we demand that of our students.

We know that better fencing results from better coaching, and we commit to conducting ourselves as professional coaches.

We respect all fencers, whether recreational, competitive, or elite, for their love of fencing, and recognize that fencers in each period, whether modern, classical, or historical, are part of a continuum across 800 years of organized teaching, learning, and fighting, on the battlefield, in the duel, and as competitive athletes, from which all of us have much to learn.

We realize that what we do changes lives, and we embrace that responsibility.

II. CLASSICAL ACADEMY OF ARMS INSTRUCTOR RANKS

The Classical Fencing Instructor Program is designed as a four level professional instructional program, with the core material for each level being designed to be completed in one year. Individuals holding these ranks are Professional Members of the Academy. The levels and associated requirements are:

1. Classical Fencing DEMONSTRATOR (CFD)

- (a) with a focus on teaching group lessons at the introductory level and the use of structured exercises to develop student movement skills and confidence
- (b) capable in the foil
- (c) requires teaching a minimum of 35 lessons of which at least 25 must be group lessons - all lessons documented with lesson plans
- (d) requires satisfactory completion of the Demonstrator course with a passing score on the written examination
- (e) requires a satisfactory completion of a practical demonstration of a group lesson, an introductory individual lesson, and a skill demonstration, all in person or submitted as video
- (f) demonstrate the ability to serve as a judge in a classical fencing bout
- (g) requires a detailed self-assessment and student assessments of individual teaching and fencing skills.

2. Classical Fencing INSTRUCTOR (CFI)

- (a) with a focus on teaching more advanced group lessons and the use of drills, including eyes closed drills, to teach skills with the weapon
- (b) demonstrate teaching competence in one weapon in a practical demonstration of an individual teaching lesson with a single skill, all in person or submitted as video
- (c) requires teaching a minimum of 100 lessons of which at least 50 must be group lessons - all lessons documented with lesson plans
- (d) requires satisfactory completion of the Instructor course with a passing score on the written examination
- (e) requires a satisfactory completion of an oral examination
- (f) demonstrate the ability to serve as the president of a Jury in a classical fencing bout
- (g) requires a detailed self-assessment and student assessments of individual teaching and fencing skills.

3. Classical Fencing PROVOST (CFP)

- (a) with a focus on the use of technical individual lessons involving an action and its counter
- (b) demonstrate teaching competence in a second weapon in a practical demonstration of an individual lesson, all in person or submitted as video
- (c) requires teaching a minimum of 200 lessons of which at least 75 must have been in the second weapon - all lessons documented with lesson plans
- (d) requires satisfactory completion of the Provost course with a passing score on the written examination
- (e) requires a satisfactory completion of an oral examination
- (f) prepare a research paper addressing an issue of significance in the teaching of classical fencing
- (g) requires a detailed self-assessment and student assessments of individual teaching and fencing skills
- (h) demonstrate the ability to serve as the member of the bout committee for a classical fencing tournament

4. Classical Fencing MASTER (CFM)

- (a) with a focus on the use of technical individual lessons involving an action and the development of options from that action
- (b) demonstrate teaching competence in the third weapon in a practical demonstration of an individual lesson, all in person or submitted as video
- (c) requires teaching a minimum of 300 lessons of which at least 75 must have been in each weapon - all lessons must be documented with lesson plans
- (d) requires satisfactory completion of the Master course with a passing score on the written examination
- (e) requires a satisfactory completion of an oral examination
- (f) prepare a thesis based on original research addressing an issue of significance to classical fencing
- (g) requires a detailed self-assessment and student assessments of individual teaching and fencing skills

5. Classical Fencing MASTER TRAINER (CFMT)

- (a) with a focus on the training of instructors.
- (b) demonstrate competence in teaching a candidate for the rank Classical Fencing Instructor, Classical Fencing Provost, and Classical Fencing Master how to teach an individual lesson appropriate for that rank, in person or submitted as video.
- (c) demonstrate competence in teaching a candidate for any rank how to teach a group lesson, in person or submitted as video.

- (d) teach classical fencing in an instructor clinic for a minimum of 16 hours using the syllabus of the Demonstrator, Instructor, Provost, or Master course. More than one clinic session may be combined to meet the 16 hour requirement, as long as each session is at least 4 hours in length, and all are completed within one year.
- (e) requires a detailed self-assessment and student assessments of individual teaching and fencing skills.
- (f) make a substantial contribution to knowledge of teaching classical fencing among the members of the Academy through any combination of: development of teaching guides for a specific weapon and master; publication of articles, manuals, or guides to general methods of teaching classical fencing skills; or development of media presentations to assist developing instructors improve their teaching skills.

III. CLASSICAL FENCING INSTRUCTOR SKILLS

The following matrix outlines the skills and abilities required for each instructional rank awarded by the Classical Academy of Arms. Instructors of all ranks are expected to further develop their skills as they progress in rank. Skills referenced in the table are skills in the Academy's Classical Fencing Skill Development Program for fencing students in each weapon.

	Apprentice	Demonstrator	Instructor	Provost	Master
TEACHING SKILLS					
Present self in a professional manner	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Maintain a safe teaching environment	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Demonstrate skills	Skills 1-3, as student	Skills 1-3	Skills 4-7	Skills 8	Skills 9
Arrange students in formation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Provide concise instructions and explanations		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Choose appropriate drills			Yes	Yes	Yes
Demonstrate drills	As student	As student	Yes	Yes	Yes
Conduct footwork drills	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Conduct bladework drills	As student	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Supervise bouting		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Follow a class lesson plan	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Identify objectives for a lesson		Short lesson	Yes	Yes	yes
Determine metrics for lesson success			Yes	Yes	Yes
Plan a group lesson			Yes	Yes	Yes
Teach a group lesson		Skills 1-3	Skills 4-6	Skills 7-8	Skills 9
Correct student individual performance	Skills 1-3	Skills 1-3	Skills 4-6	Skills 7-8	Skills 9
Teach individual corrective lesson	Skills 1-3	Skills 1-3	Skills 4-6	Skills 7-8	Skills 9
Correct group performance		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Use correct teaching position, presentation, and movement	Entry level	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Properly introduce the lesson		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Conduct an appropriate, fencing specific warm-up			Yes	Yes	Yes
Teach an individual, command-based, technical lesson		Skills 1-3	Skills 4-6	Skills 7-8	Skills 9
Plan an individual lesson		Short lesson	Yes	Yes	Yes
Record changes to lesson plan		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Release control to students as appropriate				Yes	Yes
Teach an individual lesson with an action and its counter			Yes	Yes	Yes
Teach an individual lesson with an action and options from that action				Yes	Yes
Teach a lesson with the opposite hand				Yes	Yes
Teach an individual silent lesson					Yes
Teach a tactical lesson					Yes
Teach an eyes-closed lesson					Yes
Conduct an appropriate, fencing specific cool-down			Yes	Yes	Yes
Summarize the lesson			Yes	Yes	Yes
Assess/document student performance in the lesson		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
INDIVIDUAL PROFICIENCY					
Officiate bouts	Judge	Judge	President	Bout Committee	Bout Committee
First weapon proficiency	Skills 1-3	Skills 1-3	Skills 4-6	Skills 7-8	Skills 9
Second weapon proficiency				Skills 1-8	Skills 9
Third weapon proficiency					Skills 1-9
Knowledge base	Rank 1-3	Rank 1-3	Rank 4-6	Rank 7-8	Rank 9
Research capabilities				Report	Thesis
SKILLS TESTING					

Administer skills tests	Written Rank 1-3	Written all ranks	Practical Rank 1-3	Practical rank 4-6	Practical Rank 7-9
Administer instructor practical examinations			Apprentice, Demonstrator	Instructor	Provost, Master
Provide effective feedback to improve candidate performance			Yes	Yes	Yes
TRAINING PROGRAM					
Assess student progress over time			Yes	Yes	Yes
Assess student bouting			Yes	Yes	Yes
Plan an annual training program					Yes
Follow youth protection guidelines	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Follow coaching code of ethics	CAA	CAA	CAA	CAA	CAA
Maintain equipment	Daily	Daily	Basic armory	Basic armory	Basic armory
Enforce safety standards	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

IV. CLASSICAL FENCING INSTRUCTOR KNOWLEDGE

Classical fencing instructors require the ability to use a substantial body of knowledge in discovering and translating knowledge into instruction for classical fencing students. The table below identifies specific topics and the level of knowledge required using Bloom’s Digital Taxonomy as described by Andrew Churches. We believe that this taxonomic approach is applicable because the language may be easier for individuals who are not academic practitioners to understand, and because we believe that effective research in classical fencing requires significant digital literacy.

Topic:	Remember	Understand	Apply	Analyze	Evaluate	Create
Fencing terminology	CFD	CFI	CFP		CFM	
Classification of fencing actions	CFD	CFI	CFP		CFM	
Characteristics of offense, defense, counteroffense		CFD	CFI	CFP	CFM	
Physical characteristics of foil, sabre, epee		CFD	CFI	CFP	CFM	
Fencing measure		CFD	CFI	CFP	CFM	
Fencing tempo		CFD	CFI	CFP	CFM	
Fencing tactics		CFD	CFI	CFP	CFM	
Rules of classical fencing		CFD	CFI	CFP	CFM	
Principles of instruction			CFD	CFI	CFP	CFM
Identifying lesson objectives			CFD	CFI		CFP, CFM
Skill selection		CFD	CFI		CFP	CFM
Planning group and individual lessons		CFD	CFI	CFP		CFM
Designing metrics for lesson success	CFD		CFI		CFP	CFM
The teaching position		CFD	CFI	CFP	CFM	
Blade presentation		CFD	CFI	CFP	CFM	
Class formations		CFD	CFI		CFP	CFM
Providing instructions and explanations		CFD	CFI		CFP, CFM	
Appropriate warm-up drills			CFD	CFI		CFP, CFM
Skill demonstration		CFD	CFI			CFP, CFM

Choosing appropriate drills		CFD	CFI			CFP, CFM
Drill demonstration		CFD	CFI			CFP, CFM
Conducting footwork drills			CFD	CFI	CFP	CFM
Conducting bladework drills			CFD	CFI	CFP	CFM
Conducting blind drills	CFD	CFI	CFP			CFM
Use of the class lesson plan			CFD	CFI	CFP	CFM
Group lesson format, characteristics, and conduct			CFD	CFI		CFP, CFM
Individual technical command lesson format, characteristics, and conduct			CFD	CFI	CFP	CFM
Individual technical action and counter lesson format, characteristics, and conduct			CFI	CFP		CFM
Individual options lesson format, characteristics, and conduct					CFP	CFM
Individual tactical lesson format, characteristics, and conduct						CFM
Individual blind lesson format, characteristics, and conduct						CFM
Individual silent lesson format, characteristics, and conduct						CFM
Release of control to students	CFD		CFI		CFP	CFM
Correcting group performance		CFD	CFI		CFP	CFM
Correcting individual performance		CFD	CFI		CFP	CFM
Corrective lesson format, characteristics, and conduct		CFD	CFI		CFP	CFM
Supervising bouting		CFD	CFI	CFP	CFM	
Assessment of student performance	CFD		CFI		CFP	CFM
Documenting student performance		CFD	CFI	CFP		CFM
Officiating as a judge			CFD	CFI	CFP, CFM	
Officiating as a president	CFD		CFI	CFP	CFM	
Service as a member of the bout committee	CFD, CFI			CFP	CFM	

Administering skills tests		CFD	CFI		CFP	CFM
Administering practical examination		CFD	CFI		CFP	CFM
Providing feedback to improve candidate performance			CFD	CFI	CFP	CFM
Youth protection			CFD	CFI	CFP, CFM	
Coaching code of ethics			CFD	CFI	CFP, CFM	
Weapon and equipment maintenance and repair		CFD	CFI		CFP, CFM	
Safety standards			CFD		CFI	CFP, CFM

V. APPROXIMATE LENGTH OF TRAINING FOR CREDENTIALLING

The following table provides estimated lengths of training in professional development hours and Continuing Education Units for each level of credentialing as a classical fencing instructor.

	Classical Fencing Demonstrator	Classical Fencing Instructor	Classical Fencing Provost	Classical Fencing Master	Classical Fencing Master Trainer	Total Hours
Self-Assessment	1	1	1	1	1	5
Portfolio Development	2	3	4	5	5	19
<i>Total assessment time</i>	3	4	5	6	6	24
Teach 35 lessons (25 group)	30					30
Teach 100 lessons (50 group) cumulative		53				53
Teach 200 lessons cumulative			75			75
Teach 300 lessons cumulative				75		75
<i>Total lesson time</i>	30	53	75	75	2	233
Clinic Teaching					16	16
Clinic	8	12	16	24		60
<i>Total clinic time</i>	8	12	16	24	16	76
Skill rank knowledge examinations	1.5	1.5	1	0.5		4.5
Professional rank written examination	1.5	1.5	2	2		7
<i>Total written examination time</i>	3	3	3	2.5		11.5
Practical examination planning	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.6		2
Practical examination introduction	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05		0.2
Practical examination warm-up	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2		0.8

Practical examination lesson	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.5		2.2
Practical examination cool-down	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1		0.4
Practical examination documentation	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25		1
Practical examination discussion	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2		0.8
<i>Total practical examination time</i>	<i>1.6</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1.9</i>	<i>1.9</i>		<i>7.4</i>
Demonstrate teaching instructor group lesson					1	1
Demonstrate teaching instructor individual lesson					1	1
Oral examination	0.25	0.5	1	1.5		3.25
<i>Total examination time</i>	<i>4.85</i>	<i>5.5</i>	<i>5.9</i>	<i>5.9</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>24.15</i>
Provost paper			20			20
Master thesis				100		100
Trainer paper or project					40	40
<i>Total papers time</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>160</i>
Total hours for rank	<i>50.45</i>	<i>79.5</i>	<i>126.8</i>	<i>215.3</i>	<i>64</i>	
Cumulative hours of training		<i>129.95</i>	<i>256.75</i>	<i>472.1</i>	<i>536.1</i>	
CEU awarded	5.0	8.0	12.7	21.5	6.4	

VI. CLASSICAL FENCING APPRENTICE INSTRUCTOR

Mission: The Classical Fencing Apprentice Instructor training program develops assistants who can support professionally credentialed instructors in conducting beginner level fencing classes.

Focus: The focus of the Classical Fencing Apprentice Instructor program is on beginning level instruction in the foil through Ranks 1 and 2 in the Academy's skill development program. Those who teach only classical saber or dueling sword (classical epee) and who wish to qualify as Apprentice Instructors should contact the Classical Academy of Arms and request weapon specific materials.

Relationship To Other Credentials: The Classical Fencing Apprentice Instructor is a pre-professional rank intended for those who wish to assist in instructing, but who do not intend to primarily teach classical fencing, or those who do not meet the age requirements for professional credentials of the Academy.

Prerequisites: Individuals interested in becoming Apprentice Classical Instructors must:

- (1) have at least 6 months experience as a classical fencer at the salle or club level.
- (2) have completed a minimum of 30 hours of instruction in fencing skills from a professional member (Classical Fencing Demonstrator or higher) of the Classical Academy of Arms or from a certified instructor qualified by either a member academy of the Academie d'Armes Internationale or a national amateur fencing coach qualification program (such as the United States Fencing Association's Coaches College).
- (3) have a sponsor or mentor, who meets the certified instructor criteria in paragraph (2), willing to administer the program activities.

Requirements: Individuals recognized as Apprentice Classical Instructors:

- (1) complete a self-study program, including a fencing terminology, basic knowledge, and instruction methods examination.
- (2) complete a self-assessment of their teaching skills.
- (3) teach a minimum of 10 hours of group instruction in beginning level fencing skills.
- (4) provide at least 2 positive teaching evaluations by students or recognized instructors.

VII. MAPPING TO THE INTERNATIONAL SPORT COACHING FRAMEORK

The International Sport Coaching Framework, an initiative sponsored by the International Council for Coaching Excellence and the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations, provides a structure for the design of the practice and training of coaches. The classical fencing instructor ranks awarded by the Classical Academy of Arms map to the levels of competency and responsibility of the *Framework* as shown in the table below:

International Sport Coaching Framework	Classical Academy of Arms
Coaching Assistant	Classical Fencing Apprentice Instructor Classical Fencing Demonstrator
Coach	Classical Fencing Instructor
Advanced/Senior Coach	Classical Fencing Provost
Master/Head Coach	Classical Fencing Master Classical Fencing Master Trainer

VIII. MAPPING TO THE NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR SPORT COACHES

The National Standards for Sports Coaches, Second Edition, published by the National Association for Sport and Physical Education, provides 8 domains of coaching competency, along with 40 detailed standards for compliance in those domains. Although our credentialing program is not designed to coaches with broad competence in each of these domains and full application of many of the standards is beyond the capability of small, community based fencing clubs, we support the *National Standards* and attempt to address all of those applicable to the operating environment of our credentialed trainers in our training programs.

Domain	Standard	Application
1 – Philosophy and Ethics	1: Athlete-centered philosophy	• Classical Fencing Instructor Development Program
	2: Teach positive values of sport	• Classical Fencing Instructor Development Program
	3: Teach responsible behavior	• Classical Fencing Instructor Development Program
	4: Demonstrate ethical conduct	• CAA Code of Ethics • Requirement that all instructors at CAA accredited classical fencing schools complete USOC SafeSport training
2 – Safety and Injury Prevention	5: Safe facilities	• Facility checklist
	6: Protective equipment	• Standards for instructor equipment
	7: Environmental conditions	• Classical Fencing Instructor Development Program
	8: Physical conditions predisposing injury	
	9: Immediate care of injuries	• Requirement that CAA accredited classical fencing schools have first aid trained individual at any group practice.
	10: Coordinated health care program	
3 – Physical Conditioning	11: Psychological implications of injury	
	12: Conditioning based on exercise physiology and biomechanics	• Guidance on conditioning programs

	13: Teach proper nutrition	• Nutritional basics for fencers
	14: Advocate for drug-free sports	• Statement on drugs and classical fencing
	15: Conditioning to return to play after injury	• Guidance on return to practice after injury
4 – Growth and Development	16: Developmental changes in learning skills	
	17: Social and emotional growth of athletes	
	18: Leadership opportunities	• Credentialing program structured to allow teenage students to develop as trainers
5 – Teaching and Communication	19: Positive learning environment	• Classical Fencing Instructor Development Program
	20: Establish goals	• Classical Fencing Instructor Development Program
	21: Season plan – periodization	• Classical Fencing Instructor Development Program
	22: Practice management	• Classical Fencing Instructor Development Program
	23: Clear instruction	• Classical Fencing Instructor Development Program
	24: Mental skill training	• Classical Fencing Instructor Development Program
	25: Communications	• Classical Fencing Instructor Development Program
	26: Motivational techniques	• Classical Fencing Instructor Development Program
6 – Sport Skills and Tactics	27: Skills of the sport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAA Glossary • Classical Fencing Actions Project • Spanish Project • German Project • <i>Teaching Notes for the Classical Fencing Instructor</i> • Classical Fencing Skill Development Program

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classical Fencing Instructor Development Program
	28: Competitive tactics strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classical Fencing Instructor Development Program
	29: Scouting opponents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classical Fencing Instructor Development Program
7 – Organization and Administration	30: Contest management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handbook for club competitions
	31: Public relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website http://classicalacademyofarms.org • Social media presence on Twitter and Facebook
	32: Manage human resources	
	33: Manage fiscal resources	
	34: Emergency action plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Model emergency plan for classical fencing clubs
	35: Manage information documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Model records policy
	36: Legal responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic guidance on legal responsibilities for classical fencing clubs
8 - Evaluation	37: Team evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classical Fencing Instructor Development Program
	38: Motivation and performance evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classical Fencing Instructor Development Program
	39: Player selection	
	40: Staff and self-evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candidates for each instructional rank complete a self-assessment • Evaluations required from candidates' students for each instructional rank • Clinic evaluations • Test validity evaluation • Semi-annual program self-evaluation • External evaluation

IX. SOURCES OF REQUIREMENTS

The following sources were consulted in developing credentialing standards for the Classical Academy of Arms:

General Coaching:

International Council for Coaching Excellence, Association of Summer Olympic International Federations, and Leeds Metropolitan University; *International Sport Coaching Framework*, Version 1.3; Human Kinetics, Champaign, Illinois, United States of America; 2013.

National Association for Sport and Physical Recreation; *National Standards for Sport Coaches*, Second Edition; National Association for Sport and Physical Recreation; Reston, Virginia, United States of America; 2006.

Martens, Rainer; *Successful Coaching*; third edition; Human Kinetics, Champaign, Illinois, United States of America; 2004

Fencing Instruction and Certification:

Academie d'Armes Internationale; "AAI teaching standards;" course materials for International Course, Bad Karlshafen, Germany; 2005-10-4/10.

Academie d'Armes Internationale; *Systeme International de Qualification des Maitres d'Armes*; Academie d'Armes Internationale, Maubeuge, France; 2016.

British Academy of Fencing; "Essential Guide to passing BAF Coaching Examinations;" at <http://www.baf-fencing.com/guide-to-exam-success.html>; accessed 2016-08-15.

British Fencing; "Development Director Update December 2016 – Coaching Development Focus;" at <http://britishfencing.com/news/latest-news/?n=1666>; 2016-12-19.

Canadian Fencing Federation; "Fencing & NCCP – Coach Development Model;" at <http://fencing.ca/fencing-nccp-coach-development-model/>; 2016.

Neil-MacLachan, Paul; "Coaching Awards Structure;" *The Sword*, New Series No. 71, July 2002, pages 15-16.

Piraino, Roberto; “Criteria for the Organization of Technical Training in World Fencing Academies;” adopted at the Congress of the Academie d’Armes Internationale, Vichy, France; 2000-08-24/26.

Scottish Fencing; “Scottish Fencing Coach Development Programme;” at <http://scottish-fencing.org/coaching/2016/11/21/scottish-fencing-coach-development-programme>; 2016-12-20.

Skipp, Alan; “Coaching Award Scheme;” *The Sword*, New Series No. 22, April 1990, page 4.

United States Fencing Coaches Association; various examples of practical examination grading sheets from 2010 to date.

Classical Period Texts:

Amateur Fencers League of America; *Fencing: Foil, Epee, Sabre, Theory, Method, Regulations*; Alex Taylor & Co. New York, New York, United States of America, 1908.

Barbasetti, Luigi; *The Art of the Foil*; E. P. Dutton and Company, Inc., New York, New York, United States of America; 1932.

Barbasetti, Luigi; *The Art of the Sabre and the Epee*; E. P. Dutton and Company, Inc., New York, New York, United States of America; 1937.

Bertrand, Leon; *Cut and Thrust: The Subtlety of the Sabre*; Athletic Publications Ltd., London, United Kingdom; possibly 1926.

Breckenridge, Scott D., and Breckenridge, Scott D., Junior; *Sword Play: Based upon the French School of the Foil*; A. S. Barnes & Company, New York, New York, United States of America; 1941.

Burton, Richard Francis; *The Sentiment of the Sword: A Country House Dialogue*; Horace Cox, London, United Kingdom; 1911; transcribed by Joseph R. Svinth; *Journal of Non-lethal Combatives*, February 2000; at http://ejmas.com/jnc/jncart_burtonsentimentswordcontents_0300.htm; accessed 2004-07-13.

Cass, Eleanor Baldwin; *The Book of Fencing*; Lothrop, Lee and Shepard Company, Boston, Massachusetts, United States of America; 1930.

Castello, Julio Martinez; *The Theory and Practice of Fencing*; Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, New York, United States of America; 1937.

Colmore Dunn, H. A.; *Fencing*; The All-England Series; George Bell and Sons, London, United Kingdom; 1889.

Crosnier, Roger; *Fencing with the Foil*; Faber and Faber Limited, London, United Kingdom; 1951.

de Bazancourt, Cesar; translation by C. F. Clay; *Secrets of the Sword*; originally published in French as *Les Secrets de l'Epee*, 1862; translated into English and published 1900; republication by Laureate Press, Bangor, Maine, United States of America; 1998.

Deladrier, Clovis; *Modern Fencing: A Comprehensive Manual for the Foil - the Epee - the Sabre*; United States Naval Institute, Annapolis, Maryland, United States of America; 1948.

Grandiere, Maurice; *How to Fence: A New and Original Treatise on the Art of the Foil and Epee as Studied and Practiced in France*; The Walter Scott Publishing Co., Ltd., London, United Kingdom; 1906.

Grave, Felix; *Fencing Comprehensive*; Hutchinson and Company, London, United Kingdom; 1934.

Holzman, Christopher; *The Art of the Dueling Sabre: A Re-introduction of Italain School Fencing with the Dueling Sabre based on a Translation of Capt. Settimo del Frate's Award-winning 1876 Treatise for Maestro Giuseppe Radaelli's Military Fencing Master's School in Milano*; SKA SwordPlay Books, Staten Island, New York, United States of America; 2011.

Holzman, Christopher A.; *The Roman-Neapolitan School of Fencing: The Collected Works of Masaniello Parise*; Christopher A. Holzman, Wichita, Kansas, United States of America; originally published 1884-1904, 2016.

Lidstone, R. A.; *Fencing: A Practical Treatise on Foil, Epee, Sabre*; H. F. & G. Witherby Ltd., London, United Kingdom; 1952.

Nadi, Aldo; *On Fencing*; G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, New York, United States of America; 1943.

Pecoraro, Salvatore, and Pessina, Carlo; *Sabre Fencing*; translation by Christopher A. Holzman; Christopher A. Holzman, Wichita, Kansas, United States of America; original publication 1912, 2016.

Rondelle, Louis; *Foil and Sabre; A Grammar of Fencing in Detailed Lessons for Professor and Pupil*; Estes and Lauriat, Publishers, Boston, Massachusetts, United States of America; 1892.

Roux, Friedrich August Wilhelm Ludwig; *Die Kreussler'sche Stossfechtschule*; 2nd Edition; Verlag von Friedrich Mauke, Jena, Germany; 1857.

Senac, Regis and Senac, Louis; *The Art of Fencing*; Spalding's Athletic Library, Volume XIV, Number 165; American Sports Publishing Company, New York, New York, United States of America; 1904.

Terrone, Leonardo F.; *Right and Left Handed Fencing*; Dodd, Meade, and Company, New York, New York, United States of America; 1959.

Vince, Joseph; *Fencing*; 2nd Edition; The Ronald Press Company, New York, New York, United States of America; 1962.

Vince, Joseph; *Fundamentals of Foil Fencing*; Joseph Vince, New York, New York, United States of America; 1937.

X. RELATIONSHIP OF ACADEMY CREDENTIALS TO OTHER CERTIFICATIONS

Not Equivalent: Instructor ranks awarded by the Classical Academy of Arms for Classical Fencing Apprentice Instructors, Classical Fencing Demonstrators, Classical Fencing Instructors, Classical Fencing Provosts, Classical Fencing Masters, and Classical Fencing Master Trainers are not intended to qualify the holders to teach modern fencing or to prepare modern competitive athletes. They are not equivalent to the Assistant Moniteur, Moniteur, Prevot, and Maitre credentials of the United States Fencing Coaches Association (USFCA), the Animateur (obsolete), Moniteur, Prevot, Maitre, Maitre d'Armes Internationale and any other ranks of the Academie d'Armes Internationale (AAI), or the Moniteur, Prevot, and Maitre ranks of the International Fencing Coaches Association (IFCA), and should not be represented as being so. If you intend to teach and train modern competitive fencers, we strongly suggest that you study for and pass the examinations of the USFCA or the other member academies of arms of the AAI or IFCA.

Differences in Focus: The role of the Prevot and Fencing Master in the classical period was different than it is in modern fencing, as were the types of lessons and how they were conducted. The focus of the CAA program is to teach classical fencing in a way consistent with the instructional methods of the classical period. While we believe that our credentialing program is well structured, requires mastery of the material of all three weapons, and will produce instructors fully capable of teaching the technique of fencing in period of varied and complex bladework and limited footwork, it does not address tactical training, advanced footwork, timing, and distance control, conditioning, and other skills required of the modern fencing coach.

Use of Appellation: Individuals holding our credentials are expected to always include "Classical Fencing" when using the titles of their rank, and to use the standard appellations, CFA, CFD, CFI, CFP, CFM, and CFMT.

Validity of Credentials: Credentials are only valid, and the title and appellation may only be used, while the individual is a current member of the Classical Academy of Arms.

Programmatic Relationships: If your club or program teaches both modern and classical fencing, the following table provides an approximate equivalence of the two certification programs and identifies an approximate time line for use of Academy training and testing to compliment United States Fencing Coaches Association examinations.

Prerequisites	USFCA	Prerequisites	CAA
		Age 13 or older – must work under supervision of a Classical fencing Instructor or higher rank.	Classical Fencing Apprentice Instructor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills 1-3 in one weapon • Self-study course • Self-assessment • Teach 10 hours of lessons • 2 positive teaching evaluations
Age 14 or older. If under age 18 must operate under supervision of a certified coach 18 years of age or older.	Assistant Moniteur <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One weapon • Attend NTP clinic (optional) • Written examination • Practical examination – group lessons 	Age 13 or older – must work under supervision of a Classical Fencing Instructor or higher rank.	Classical Fencing Demonstrator <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills 1-3 in one weapon • 35 lessons (25 group) with lesson plans • Demonstrator Course • Practical test – group lesson, individual lesson, demonstration • Judge
Age 18 or older.	Moniteur <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One, two, or three weapons • Attend 2 NTP clinics (optional) • Written examination • Practical examination – group or individual lessons 	Age 13 or older. If under age 18 must work under supervision of a Classical Fencing Instructor or higher rank.	Classical Fencing Instructor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One weapon skills 4-6 • 100 lesson (50 group) with lesson plans • Instructor Course • Practical test – individual teaching lesson • Oral examination • President of Jury
Age 18 or older.		Age 13 or older. If under age 18 must work under supervision of a Classical Fencing Provost or higher rank.	Classical Fencing Provost <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second weapon skills 7-8 • 200 lessons (75 in second weapon) with lesson plans • Provost Course • Practical test – individual teaching lesson in second weapon with

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • action and its counter • Oral examination • Research paper • Self-assessment and student assessments • Bout Committee
Age 18 or older.	<p>Prevot</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One, two, or three weapons • Attend 4 NTP clinics (optional) • Written examination • Practical examination – group or individual options, teaching, and warmup lessons 	Age 18 or older. Exceptional candidates of age 17 with 5 years of classical fencing experience may be credentialed to work under supervision of a Classical Fencing Master or Classical Fencing Master Trainer.	<p>Classical Fencing Master</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Third weapon skills 9 • 300 lessons (75 in each weapon) with lesson plans • Master Course • Practical test – individual teaching lesson in third weapon with action and options from the action • Oral examination • Thesis • Self-Assessment and student assessments
Age 18 or older.	<p>Maitre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One, two, or three weapons • Attend 4 NTP clinics (optional) • Thesis • Practical examination – group or individual options, teaching, and warmup lessons 		

XI. METHODS OF DELIVERY

The primary method of delivery will be by distance instruction. From time to time the Academy may offer in-person delivery through clinics for one or more ranks at Salle Green or offer teaching internships at Salle Green for candidates in the Richmond, Virginia, area.

Distance Instruction:

Training and credentialing for all ranks of the Classical Academy of Arms Instructor Development Program may be completed by distance delivery. The Classical Fencing Apprentice Instructor rank is designed to be used in a club, salle, or program to train individuals under the supervision of a professional trainer. Training and credentialing for Classical Fencing Demonstrators through Classical Fencing Masters is conducted completely by distance delivery in the sequence described below. This is not a rapid process, nor should it be. It is designed to ensure that you have the experience and the knowledge to effectively and accurately teach in the manner of the classical period. For planning purposes you should allow the required training and testing to require the following time (depending on the frequency with which you teach and your starting level of proficiency):

- Classical Fencing Demonstrator - 6 months
- Classical Fencing Instructor - 6 months (cumulative 1 year)
- Classical Fencing Provost - 1 to 2 years (cumulative 2 to 3 years)
- Classical Fencing Master - 2 to 4 years (cumulative 4 to 7 years)

1. Candidate reviews the portfolio instructions on the Academy website, and starts to collect materials for that portfolio. The portfolio process is designed to (1) assist the candidate in meeting requirements for credentialing, (2) encourage the candidate to examine his or her practice as a trainer with a critical eye for further self-development, and (3) create a portable credential that may be of value for educational or employment purposes.
2. Candidate reviews the knowledge materials for the specific skill development program ranks for which a holder of the credential should be able to train classical fencers. These are:

- Classical Fencing Demonstrator - ranks 1 through 3
- Classical Fencing Instructor - ranks 4 through 6
- Classical Fencing Provost - ranks 7 and 8
- Classical Fencing Master - rank 9

Completion of this requirement is verified by passing scores on the individual knowledge tests for the skill ranks with testing being conducted online at Testmoz.com.

3. Candidate demonstrates the correct execution and brief explanation of a number of skills drawn from those that students should be able to perform for the skill development program ranks the trainer is expected to be able to teach. These are:

Classical Fencing Demonstrator - foil ranks 1 through 3

Classical Fencing Instructor - foil ranks 4 through 6

Classical Fencing Provost - foil ranks 7 and 8, second weapon ranks 1 through 8

Classical Fencing Master - foil rank 9, second weapon rank 9, third weapon ranks 1 through 9

Completion of this requirement is verified by submission of a video recording showing performance of the skill by the candidate. Skill performance should reflect the technique of a recognized school of fencing of the classical period. The Academy is prepared to evaluate performance of skills in the French, Northern Italian, Neapolitan, Spanish, Kreusslerian Thrust Fencing, Hungarian Sabre, and Left and Right Handed Schools. Skills to be performed will be selected at random from the rank skill lists. Candidates will receive feedback on their performance, and in the case where performance may not meet the standard of the particular school may be asked to submit a second demonstration of the subject skill or skills.

4. Candidate submits a self-assessment using the standard form available on the Academy website. The candidate will receive feedback on the self-assessment with appropriate suggestions for improvement.

5. Candidate studies the appropriate study material in the Classical Academy of Arms textbook *Teaching Classical Fencing*. When ready the candidate completes the appropriate rank examination, with testing being conducted online at Testmoz.com.

6. Candidate teaches the total required cumulative number and mix of lessons for the rank.

Classical Fencing Demonstrator – 35 of which 25 are group lessons

Classical Fencing Instructor – 100 of which 50 are group lessons

Classical Fencing Provost – 200 of which 75 are in the second weapon

Classical Fencing Master – 300 of which 75 are in each weapon

Completion of this requirement is verified by submission of a log of lessons taught using the standard form available on the Academy website, along with at least 3 lesson plans for each weapon in any format identified in *Teaching Classical Fencing*:

- Classical Fencing Demonstrator - 3 lesson plans
- Classical Fencing Instructor - 3 lesson plans
- Classical Fencing Provost - 6 lesson plans
- Classical Fencing Master - 9 lesson plans

Candidates with at least one year teaching experience upon entering the credentialing program may bank lesson credit at a rate of 30 lessons a year and apply those as follows:

- Classical Fencing Demonstrator - maximum of 15 lessons
- Classical Fencing Instructor – maximum of 50 lessons
- Classical Fencing Provost – maximum of 100 lessons (each weapon must teach at least 50 lessons in the program)
- Classical Fencing Master – maximum of 150 lessons (each weapon must teach at least 50 lessons in the program)

Candidates should plan to record at least 2 lessons in each weapon at each rank and submit them to the Academy for review and feedback to ensure that they are adequately prepared for the examination.

7. Candidate teaches the appropriate examination lessons required for the credential as follows:

- Classical Fencing Demonstrator – a group and an individual technical command based lesson
- Classical Fencing Instructor - technical command based lesson, **individual lesson with an action and its counter**
- Classical Fencing Provost – individual lesson with choice reaction and options
- Classical Fencing Master - a silent lesson, an eyes closed lesson, and a tactical lesson, with one lesson in each of the weapons

Candidates for the ranks of Classical Fencing Provost and Classical Fencing Master will teach one lesson with his or her non-dominant hand. This may be one of the required lessons or a separate lesson from any of the lesson types in the requirements lists.

The topic for the main body of lessons will be specified by the examiners from among the skills in the skill development ranks the candidate is expected to be able to teach.

Candidates will be evaluated on the elements and according to the standards contained in the practical examination form available on the Academy website. Where more than one lesson type is required for the practical examination, a single introduction and warm-up will be conducted, then each main body lesson type as a short lesson, followed by a single conclusion. The candidate should be able to teach an effective main body lesson type in approximately 10 minutes.

8. Candidate completes the required oral examination for the rank and weapon or weapons based on the examination question bank available on the Academy's website.

9. Candidate submits any required paper as follows:

Classical Fencing Provost - research paper

Classical Fencing Master - thesis

Papers should make a significant contribution to knowledge of classical fencing and methods of teaching classical fencing. Papers submitted should follow the standard format provided on the Academy website. Candidates will receive guidance during the paper preparation process as needed. In the case that a paper does not meet the Academy's standards, feedback will be provided to assist the candidate in revising the paper to meet standards.

10. Candidate submits the required student evaluations of his or her teaching using the standard form available on the Academy website.

11. On approval of all steps the candidate submits a complete portfolio for the rank following the current portfolio instructions on the Academy website.

In-Person Instruction

In person instruction will follow the same progression used for distance delivery with the exception that evaluation and feedback will be more extensive and delivered in-person through observation and critique of performance. Practical examinations will be evaluated by a panel of qualified examiners as follows:

Classical Fencing Demonstrator – one Classical Fencing Provost or Master

Classical Fencing Instructor – one Classical Fencing Master, one Classical Fencing Instructor

Classical Fencing Provost – one Classical Fencing Master, one Classical Fencing Provost

Classical Fencing Master - one Classical Fencing Master, one Classical Fencing Provost, one Classical Fencing Instructor

XII. CONTINUING EDUCATION

Individuals who hold professional credentials (Classical Fencing Demonstrator through Classical Fencing Master) issued by the Classical Academy of Arms are required to complete 12 professional development hours of coaching continuing education annually to maintain the credential and their Academy membership. These hours may be completed using any mix of the following:

- Monthly continuing education topic readings and the associated knowledge checks on the Academy website.
- Coaching clinics leading to professional credentialing by the Academy, the United States Fencing Coaches Association, or any recognized national academy of arms which is a member of the Academie d'Armes Internationale of the International Fencing Coaches Association.
- Clinics for coaches or fencers offered as part of continuing education efforts accredited by the United States Fencing Coaches Association or any recognized national academy of arms which is a member of the Academie d'Armes Internationale of the International Fencing Coaches Association.
- Monthly continuing education topic readings and the associated knowledge checks offered by the North American Mangiarotti Society on its Academy website.
- Other training offered in person, online, or by individual study by recognized providers of coaching training, as long as continuing education units, open badges, or other documentation of training is provided to the member. Members intending to use such training should be prepared to provide a syllabus or other synopsis of the training provided.

Continuing education should be reported using the continuing education form on the Academy's website.

XIII. CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS

Continuing education units provide a national standard measurement of professional training delivered in a non-academic setting. The Academy issues CEUs for all training that it conducts under the following rules:

1. One Continuing Education Unit is equal to 10 hours of contact training. Contact may be in person in an individual lesson or group lesson format or in supervised student lessons or by distance delivery of instruction. Partial CEUs may be issued for 3 or more hours of training.
2. The Academy issues CEUs based on actual instructional time for completion of:
 - Classical Fencing Apprentice Instructor rank requirements
 - Classical Fencing Demonstrator rank requirements
 - Classical Fencing Instructor rank requirements
 - Classical Fencing Provost rank requirements
 - Classical Fencing Master rank requirements
 - Classical Fencing Master Trainer rank requirements
 - Monthly online continuing education
 - Other clinics and workshops that it may develop and present
3. Award of CEUs requires that an appropriate form of evaluation is applied to the delivery of instruction with the results documented in the Academy's records. These include:
 - Practical evaluations of participant performance for all trainer ranks.
 - Written research and technical papers for the ranks of Classical Fencing Provost, Classical Fencing Master, and Classical Fencing Master Trainer.
 - Written examinations for all trainer ranks.
 - Self and student evaluations for the ranks of Classical Fencing Apprentice Instructor through Classical Fencing Master.
 - Monthly short knowledge reviews for online monthly continuing education.
4. Credentialing and training certificates and open badges issued by the Academy will include the number of CEUs awarded.
5. On request the Academy will issue a transcript of CEUs earned.

XIV. OPEN BADGES

Open Badges are portable icons with embedded metadata issued by organizations to document service, attendance at events, training completed, and credentials. The metadata identifies the issuing organization, the individual to which the badge is awarded, the date of award, and the purpose and requirements for the award, and may be accompanied by documentation of how the requirements were met. Open Badges are achieving increasing acceptance in professional and academic settings as a way to granularly identify the knowledge, skills, and abilities of individuals.

The Academy issues the following Open Badges through Credly, a badge hosting service. Each badge's data includes the detailed requirements for the rank as well as evidence of accomplishment of those requirements either as .pdf documents or as links to online documents.

- Classical Fencing Apprentice Instructor
- Classical Fencing Demonstrator
- Classical Fencing Instructor
- Classical Fencing Provost
- Classical Fencing Master
- Classical Fencing Master Trainer

Open badges may be developed and awarded for other clinics and training programs developed in the future by the Academy.

XIV. EVALUATION

The Academy uses a multi-level evaluation program to identify areas in which our training and credentialing programs can be improved. These evaluations address individual candidate readiness for certification, quality of training, quality and standardization of the credentialing process, overall program quality, and whether the credentialing program is producing qualified and competent trainers.

1. **Candidate Self-Assessment:** Each candidate for credentialing completes a self-assessment for each instructional rank. The self-assessment is designed to evaluate the candidate's practice as an instructor. The assessment includes both items rated on a scale and opportunities for the candidate to provide substantive statements on strengths and areas for improvement along with an action plan to meet the candidate's goals. Self-assessments assist the Academy in identifying areas for emphasis in our training program.
2. **Evaluations Required from Candidates' Students for Each Instructional Rank:** Candidates are required to submit student evaluations of their teaching as part of the credentialing process. These evaluations provide insight as to whether the candidates' performance in practical and written evaluations, and this evaluation process, is consistent with the experiences of candidate's students, helping to triangulate the validity of the Academy's examination process.
3. **Clinic Evaluations:** Candidates who attend clinics conducted by the Academy are asked to evaluate each clinic attended. This feedback helps to improve clinic quality and to improve materials and processes also used for distance delivery.
4. **Test Validity:** All written and practical examinations are reviewed annually to determine whether results of examinations indicate that the written and practical examinations are valid, reliable, and fair, and that the results of written and practical examinations are consistent.
5. **Portfolios:** All candidates are required to submit a cumulative portfolio of their experience and work in the credentialing program. Specific items in the portfolio help establish whether our training assumptions adequately reflect the experience of candidates and whether our training process has helped them develop professional attitudes, knowledge, skills, and abilities.
6. **Annual Program Self-evaluation:** Each fencing year the Academy conducts a self-assessment to identify progress toward its objectives and completion of the annual work plan and identify emerging opportunities or areas of concern.

7. **Outside Evaluation:** The Academy solicits reviews from other fencing professionals credentialed by national academies of arms at least once a year to identify strengths and weaknesses in our programs and to obtain suggestions for improvement based on best practices in modern fencing coaching.

XV. INSTRUCTOR INSIGNIA

Individuals who hold instructional credentials from the Classical Academy of Arms may wear a sleeve patch 2 inches in width by 3.5 inches in height on either the cuff of the uniform 1 to 2 inches from the cuff or on the back of the teaching plastron. Patches indicate the rank of the instructor as shown in the following table:

Rank	Patch Color	Inner Border	Swords	Lettering
Classical Fencing Apprentice Instructor	White with a white merrowed edge	Rectangular black	One horizontal black sword	CFA in black
Classical Fencing Demonstrator	Black with a black merrowed edge	Rectangular white	One horizontal white sword	CFD in white
Classical Fencing Instructor	Black with a black merrowed edge	Rectangular white	Two horizontal white swords	CFI in white
Classical Fencing Provost	Black with a black merrowed edge	Silver rectangular wreath open at the top	Three horizontal white swords	CFP in white
Classical Fencing Master	Black with a black merrowed edge	Gold rectangular wreath open at top	Four horizontal white swords	CFM in yellow
Classical Fencing Master Trainer	Black with a black merrowed edge	Silver rectangular wreath open at the top	Four horizontal yellow swords	CFMT in yellow

XVI. CLASSICAL FENCING SKILL PROGRAM

The Classical Academy of Arms provides to members desiring to have a structured training program for their club, salle, or program a standard skill development program for their students. Because the skill ranks of this program are referenced in the skills and knowledge requirements for credentialing, the following provides a program summary:

Objectives: The Classical Academy of Arms has developed a nine rank skills program for foil, sabre, and dueling sword. This program is designed to support the Academy's members by:

- (1) Providing a roadmap and motivational tool for student participation in a classical fencing program.
- (2) Offering a structured approach to teaching skills and knowledge appropriate to classical fencers.
- (3) Supplying standards for student performance and recognition elements for those who meet the standards.
- (4) Differentiating the members' clubs and programs from those with no structured skills program.

Rank Requirements: Award of each rank requires:

- (1) that the individual hold the previous rank in the weapon, with the exception of Rank 1.
- (2) completion of a written examination on the knowledge required for the rank with a passing score of between 70 and 76 percent, depending on the examination.
- (3) demonstration of skills required for the rank with at least five successful repetitions of each skill in a typical individual or group lesson.

Note that completion of requirements for a rank does not warrant that the individual can perform these skills perfectly under the pressure of a competitive bout – the requirement is that they must be demonstrated in a lesson environment. However, examiners should not pass candidates who are unable to fence at the level of the rank in bouts.

Examiners: Any current Classical Fencing Demonstrator, Instructor, Provost or Master may test students, including their own, up to the highest rank they are expected to be able to teach (see table in Section VI).

Materials: The Classical Academy of Arms provides at a reasonable price the following materials for use in the program:

- (1) knowledge handouts for each rank.

- (2) knowledge examinations and skill sign-off sheets for each rank and weapon.
- (3) certificates for those completing requirements.
- (4) arm patches and open badges verifying award of a rank

Skills Insignia: Individuals who hold ranks in the Classical Fencing Skills Program from the Classical Academy of Arms may wear a sleeve patch 2 inches in width by 3.5 inches in height on either the cuff of the uniform 1 to 2 inches from the cuff or on the back of the teaching plastron. Patches indicate the rank in the Skills Program as shown in the following table:

Rank	Patch Color	Inner Border	Swords	Lettering
1	White with a white merrowed edge	None	One horizontal red sword	CF1 in red
2	White with a white merrowed edge	None	Two horizontal red swords	CF2 in red
3	White with a white merrowed edge	None	Three horizontal red swords	CF3 in red
4	White with a white merrowed edge	Rectangular red	One horizontal red sword	CF4 in red
5	White with a white merrowed edge	Rectangular red	Two horizontal red swords	CF5 in red
6	White with a white merrowed edge	Rectangular red	Three horizontal red swords	CF6 in red
7	White with a white merrowed edge	Red rectangular wreath open at the top	One horizontal red sword	CF7 in red
8	White with a white merrowed edge	Red rectangular wreath open at the top	Two horizontal red swords	CF8 in red
9	White with a white merrowed edge	Red rectangular wreath open at the top	Three horizontal red swords	CF9 in red

Classical Academy of Arms Classical Fencing Rank System (Foil)

Rank	Skills	Knowledge	Bouts	Officiating	Evaluation
1	Salute Coming to On Guard Straight Thrust Footwork Distance	Parts of weapon, piste dimensions, target area, customs, right of way, basic history			Written Practical
2	Engagement Change of Engagement Simple attacks Lateral Parries Direct Ripostes Invitations	Weapon dimensions, piste penalties, lines, how right of way is lost, distances, simple attacks and parries, riposte, inspecting equipment	20		Written Practical
3	Compound Attacks Semi-circular Parries Circular Parries	Weapon types, safety items to avoid, ground gained on piste, customs in the salle, Medieval fencing, compound attacks, direction of parries, simple footwork, types of competition, time periods and touches	40		Written Practical
4	Successive Parries Indirect Ripostes Counter-ripostes Change Parries	safety in lessons, position on piste, Renaissance fencing, opening and closing distance, preparation, composed parries, indirect counterriposte, distance control, pool competitions, timing and scoring, basic tactics, rules on method of fencing	60		Written Practical
5	Takings of the Blade Ceding Parries	safety in competition, prize fights, takings of the blade, ceding parries, advanced footwork, elimination competitions, judging, reconnaissance, irregular action	100	Judging test	Written Practical
6	Attacks on the Blade Tac-au-tac Parries	1700s fencing, attacks on the blade, tac-au-tac parries, match competition, directing, tactical systems	250	President of the Jury test	Written Oral Practical
7	Remise Redouble Reprise	customs in meets, 1800s fencing, renewed attacks, distance taken in parries, ladder competition. seeding, using time	400	Preside for 100 bouts	Written Oral Practical
8	Multi-part Compound Attacks Stop Hit and Time Hit	academical fencing, classical period history, counterattacks, parrying final action, strategy	600	Preside for 200 bouts	Written Oral Practical
9	Second Intention Countertime Feint in Tempo Flying Parries	History of fencing masters, countertime	800	Preside for 300 bouts	Written Oral Practical

Classical Academy of Arms Classical Fencing Rank System (Epee or Dueling Sword)

Rank	Skills	Knowledge	Bouts	Officiating	Evaluation
1	Salute Straight and Bent Arm Guard Straight Thrust Footwork Distance	Parts of weapon, piste dimensions, target area, customs, right of way, basic history			Written Practical
2	Point in Line Engagement Change of Engagement Simple Attacks Opposition Parry Direct Riposte Invitations	Weapon dimensions, piste penalties, lines, how right of way is lost, distances, simple attacks and parries, riposte, inspecting equipment	20		Written Practical
3	Digs False Attacks Compound Attacks	Weapon types, safety, ground gained on piste, customs in the salle, Medieval fencing, compound attacks, direction of parries, simple footwork, types of competition, time periods and touches	40		Written Practical
4	Counterparries Beat Parries Parrying with the Guard	safety in lessons, position on piste, Renaissance fencing, opening and closing distance, preparation, composed parries, indirect counterriposte, distance control, pool competitions, timing and scoring, basic tactics, rules on method of fencing	60		Written Practical
5	Counterriposte Takings of the Blade	safety in competition, prize fights, takings of the blade, ceding parries, advanced footwork, elimination competitions, judging, reconnaissance, irregular action	100	Judging test	Written Practical
6	Beat and Press Opposition Derobement	1700s fencing, attacks on the blade, tac-au-tac parries, match competition, directing, tactical systems	250	President of the Jury test	Written Oral Practical
7	Remise Redouble Reprise	customs in meets, 1800s fencing, renewed attacks, distance taken in parries, ladder competition. seeding, using time	400	Preside for 100 bouts	Written Oral Practical
8	Stop Hit Time Hit Attacks on Preparation	academical fencing, classical period history, counterattacks, parrying final action, strategy	600	Preside for 200 bouts	Written Oral Practical
9	Counter Stop Thrust Countertime Attack	History of fencing masters, countertime	800	Preside for 300 bouts	Written Oral Practical

Classical Academy of Arms Classical Fencing Rank System (Sabre)

Rank	Skills	Knowledge	Bouts	Officiating	Evaluation
1	Salute Coming to On Guard Moulinet Cuts Footwork Distance	Parts of weapon, piste dimensions, target area, customs, right of way, basic history			Written Practical
2	Engagement Change of Engagement Simple Attacks Simple Parries Direct Ripostes Invitations	Weapon dimensions, piste penalties, lines, how right of way is lost, distances, simple attacks and parries, riposte, inspecting equipment	20		Written Practical
3	Compound Attacks Counter Parries Half-Counter Parries	Weapon types, safety items to avoid, ground gained on piste, customs in the salle, Medieval fencing, compound attacks, direction of parries, simple footwork, types of competition, time periods and touches	40		Written Practical
4	Indirect ripostes Counterripostes Compound Ripostes	safety in lessons, position on piste, Renaissance fencing, opening and closing distance, preparation, composed parries, indirect counterriposte, distance control, pool competitions, timing and scoring, basic tactics, rules on method of fencing	60		Written Practical
5	Invitations False Attacks Point in Line	safety in competition, prize fights, takings of the blade, ceding parries, advanced footwork, elimination competitions, judging, reconnaissance, irregular action	100	Judging test	Written Practical
6	Beats and Presses Change Beat Opposition	1700s fencing, attacks on the blade, tac-au-tac parries, match competition, directing, tactical systems	250	President of the Jury test	Written Oral Practical
7	Stop Hit Time Hit Counterattack by Beat Attack on Preparation	customs in meets, 1800s fencing, renewed attacks, distance taken in parries, ladder competition. seeding, using time	400	Preside for 100 bouts	Written Oral Practical
8	Remise Redouble Reprise	academical fencing, classical period history, counterattacks, parrying final action, strategy	600	Preside for 200 bouts	Written Oral Practical
9	Counter-time Attack Second Intention	History of fencing masters, countertime	800	Preside for 300 bouts	Written Oral Practical

XVII. SKILLS INSIGNIA

Individuals who hold ranks in the Classical Fencing Skills Program from the Classical Academy of Arms may wear a sleeve patch 2 inches in width by 3.5 inches in height on either the cuff of the uniform 1 to 2 inches from the cuff or on the back of the teaching plastron. Patches indicate the rank in the Skills Program as shown in the following table:

Rank	Patch Color	Inner Border	Swords	Lettering
1	White with a white merrowed edge	None	One horizontal red sword	CF1 in red
2	White with a white merrowed edge	None	Two horizontal red swords	CF2 in red
3	White with a white merrowed edge	None	Three horizontal red swords	CF3 in red
4	White with a white merrowed edge	Rectangular red	One horizontal red sword	CF4 in red
5	White with a white merrowed edge	Rectangular red	Two horizontal red swords	CF5 in red
6	White with a white merrowed edge	Rectangular red	Three horizontal red swords	CF6 in red
7	White with a white merrowed edge	Red rectangular wreath open at the top	One horizontal red sword	CF7 in red
8	White with a white merrowed edge	Red rectangular wreath open at the top	Two horizontal red swords	CF8 in red
9	White with a white merrowed edge	Red rectangular wreath open at the top	Three horizontal red swords	CF9 in red