

International Fencing Coaches Association

The Standard – Coaching Award Levels



Assistant Moniteur Award

An introductory award designed for those who wish to begin to *teach* fencing. Candidates who successfully reaches the required standard should be able to take absolute beginners – either singly or in small groups – and to *teach* them the basic strokes of fencing.

Moniteur Award

A candidate who successfully reaches the required standard for this award is expected to be able to give *teaching* and *coaching* sessions, both individually and in groups, on all topics on the syllabuses. As in common with the Assistant Moniteur award, *teaching* is concerned with the technical and mechanical aspects of the stroke(s).

Teaching and Coaching (what's the difference?)

In a teaching lesson, the teacher, imparts to an individual/class, the knowledge and/or technique to enable them to execute a fencing stroke (or group of strokes). The teacher should assume that the class/individual receiving the lesson has no previous knowledge or experience of that fencing stroke (or group of strokes).

The teacher's class/pupil control and ability to impart the necessary knowledge and technique whilst maintaining the interest of the class/pupil are the essential factors in assessing his/her ability as a teacher.

In a coaching session, a coach takes a class/individual, having previous knowledge or technical ability with a fencing stroke (or group of strokes), and formulates exercises and practices that will improve the class/individual's ability to execute that stroke (or strokes) under a range of competitive conditions.

As in teaching, the coach's class/pupil control and his/her ability to maintain the interest of the class/pupil are very important. Important also is the need for the exercises provided to be realistic from a competitive point of view.

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Prévôt AWARD

Unless the examination question specifically asks the candidate to teach, the award is primarily concerned with a candidate's ability to *coach* strokes within a limited group or subject. The candidate should be of sufficient standard to give exercises, which form the basis for developing and improving a fencer's theoretical and tactical ability. In contrast to Assistant Moniteur and Moniteur, the lessons (class and individual) should have an underlying theme of one or more of the following aspects:

- Technique
- Timing
- Tactics
- Distance
- Rhythm / Changes of Cadence
- Continuity Hitting
- Competitive situations
- Simple and/or Compound Reaction

Maître d'Escrime

The IFCA's highest award is primarily concerned with a candidate's ability to *coach* strokes and topics within a group or subject. The candidate should be of sufficient standard to give exercises, which form the basis for developing and improving a fencer's theoretical understanding and his/her technical and tactical ability, within the confines of the stroke(s), topic or subject being examined. In contrast with the Prévôt Award the candidate is required to deal with multiple strokes and/or subjects whilst focusing on one or more of the following aspects:

- Technique
- Timing
- Tactics
- Distance
- Rhythm / Changes of Cadence
- Continuity Hitting
- Competitive situations
- Simple and/or Compound Reaction

What is coaching?

In a coaching session, a coach takes a class/individual, having previous knowledge or technical ability with a fencing stroke (or group of strokes), and formulates exercises and practices that will improve the class/individual's ability to execute that stroke (or strokes) under a range of competitive conditions.

As in teaching, the coach's class/pupil control and his/her ability to maintain the interest of the class/pupil are very important. Important also is the need for the exercises provided to be realistic from a competitive point of view.