



FENCING  
VICTORIA

# RANKINGS POLICY 2025

## AIM OF THE RANKINGS

The aim of the Fencing Victoria Rankings Policy and Rankings System is to encourage competition participation and engagement, and to provide public records to the wider community. This policy intends to contribute to the broader goal of building Fencing Victoria membership and consolidating state-level fencing.

This policy defines how fencers are ranked, based on results for a given competition season, and its preceding season. It defines Fencing Victoria's category of competitions for fencers, and their eligibility to compete and receive ranking points in such categories. This policy applies to all athletes entering any competition run by Fencing Victoria.

This document goes together with the Fencing Victoria Rankings Tables, which display fencers and their accrued points across a given season. The rankings' structure should reflect the rules and guidelines listed here.

Another purpose of the policy is to publicize how Fencing Victoria competitions are seeded. Seeding is where a fencer is ranked within a given event, which influences who they fence and when. Within an event, fencers are distributed evenly by ranking, to avoid cannibalization of higher-ranked fencers within the competition format. All Fencing Victoria competitions utilize the given event's current rankings for seeding of fencers.

## DEFINITIONS

- **Fencer** means any athlete who has successfully completed a Fencing Victoria competition.
- **Competition** means a singular or set of events that is held and sanctioned by Fencing Victoria.
- **Event** means an individual competition with a given category, awarding ranking points.
- **Category** means a ruleset which determines which fencers are and aren't eligible to participate in events of such category.
- **Series** means the set of events for a given category, within a competition season.
- **Competition Season** means a given set of competitions between the 1st of January and 31st of December for a given year.
- **Under [#]** means a competition category open to any fencer that was under the age of [#] as of the 1st of January of the competition year.
- **Youth** means a competition category open to any fencer that was under the age of 15 as of the 1st of January of the competition year.
- **Cadet** means a competition category open to any fencer that was under the age of 17 as of the 1st of January of the competition year.
- **Junior** means a competition category open to any fencer that was under the age of 20 as of the 1st of January of the competition year.
- **Open** means a competition category open to any fencer.
- **Veterans** means a competition category open to any fencer that was over the age of 40 as of the 31st of December of the competition year.
- **B-Grade** means a competition category open to any fencer who has not finished in the top 8 of a national (AFF) event. Fencers who have finished in the top 8 of a national event are classified as A-Grade fencers and are not eligible to enter for B-Grade events.
- **Junior Secondary School** means any school age fencer currently undertaking up to and including year 9 equivalence.
- **Senior Secondary School** means any age fencer currently undertaking up to and including year 12 equivalence.
- **Novice U16** means any fencer that was under 16 years of age as of the 1st of January and who has been competing in Fencing Victoria events for less than 2 years. Any fencer who wins a Novice championship is excluded from the category for the next competition season.
- **Novice 16+** means any fencer that was 16 years of age or older as of the 1st of January and who has been competing in Fencing Victoria events for less than 2 years. Any fencer who wins a Novice championship is excluded from the category for the next competition season.
- **National** refers to the Australian Fencing Federation (AFF)
- **FV** is shorthand for Fencing Victoria

## ELIGIBILITY FOR POINTS

All fencers who have competed in an FV competition within the given season are eligible to receive FV ranking points.

Fencers are eligible to receive points in FV state events and AFF national events. All ranking points are based on the results of a given event. In the case of a mixed competition, points are awarded regularly, to fencers' individual categories.

*i.e., a male fencer places fifth in a mixed event but is the first placed male fencer. They will only receive points for placing fifth within the appropriate male category.*

In the event of mixed pools with separated direct elimination events, points are awarded separately based on the direct elimination events.

Each event is required to have a minimum of 4 fencers, and as such any event with less than 4 are not eligible to award points.

## COMPETITION SERIES

A given category has a set of events in each competition season that award points for said category. This set is called a 'series.'

Within each series, events are named to distinguish one from another. The naming of an event is based on one of the following:

- Sequential numbering *i.e., Round #1, Round #2*
- Championship event
- Special Challenge/Honorary event *i.e., Club Challenge, Neil Hick Epee Shield*

When an existing event is removed from a series, no retroactive changes are made to the rankings. Points from those events continue to roll over to the next competition season, after which they will be removed.

## POINTS TO BE AWARDED

Points are awarded as per the FIE points distribution, from 1st to 256th place. Fencers are also eligible to receive points for their age category through results in the age category immediately above. Such points are multiplied by 1.2.

*i.e., an Under 15 fencer finishes second place in an Under 17 event, receiving 31.2 points for their Under 15 ranking instead of the standard distribution, 26.*

This rule applies to all Under [#] events, as well as Veteran events. Veterans receive 1.2\* points for Open results. Under 20 fencers also receive 1.2\* points for Open results.

Points awarded from a national event are multiplied by 1.5, with national events in the age category immediate above receiving the same 1.2 multiplier applied above the existing 1.5 multiplier, for a total of a multiplier of 1.8.

Only Under 13, 15, 17, 20, Open, and Veteran categories include results from national events.

Under 10, 12, and 14 results (Joseph D'Onofrio Challenge) are calculated into the Under 9, 11, and 13 categories, respectively.

Fencers who are not eligible to receive points in Under 9, 11, or 13 categories will not receive any points when competing in the respective Under 10, 12, or 14 event.

*i.e., a fencer aged 13 by the 1st of January of that competition season competing in an Under 14 event will not receive Under 13 ranking points.*

## POINT SUMMATION AND FENCER RANKING

Fencers in each category are ranked based on the total sum of their accrued points from eligible events within a competition season.

A competition season's rankings include results from the previous season, which 'roll over' as the present season occurs. This means that there will be one instance of any event calculated into rankings at any point in a competition season.

*i.e., Within the 2022-2023 rankings, the 2022 Open Foil Championship results will be included until the 2023 Open Foil Championships have been completed.*

In the event of two or more fencers having the same total points for a given category, they are ranked in a tied position with the same ranking place. Fencers proceeding them in the rankings do not receive the next whole number, but rather the number they would receive if the tied fencers had received distinct places.

*i.e., A fencer following two fencers ranked tied seventh is ranked ninth.*

## POINT SCALING AND DISTRIBUTION TABLE

PLACE	VICTORIAN	VICTORIAN (AGE GROUP ABOVE)	NATIONAL	NATIONAL (AGE GROUP ABOVE)
1	32	38.4	48	57.6
2	26	31.2	39	46.8
3-4	20	24	30	36
5-8	14	16.8	21	25.2
9-16	8	9.6	12	14.4
17-32	4	4.8	6	7.2
33-64	2	2.4	3	3.6
65-96	1	1.2	1.5	1.8
97-128	0.5	0.6	0.75	0.9
129-256	0.25	0.3	0.375	0.45

## POINT ELIGIBILITY AND SCALING TABLE

CATEGORY OF FENCER	CATEGORY OF EVENT							
	U9	U11	U13	U15	U17	U20	OP	VE
Under 9	1	1.2						
Under 11		1	1.2					
Under 13			1	1.2				
Under 15				1	1.2			
Under 17					1	1.2		
Under 20						1	1.2	
Open							1	
Veteran							1.2	1