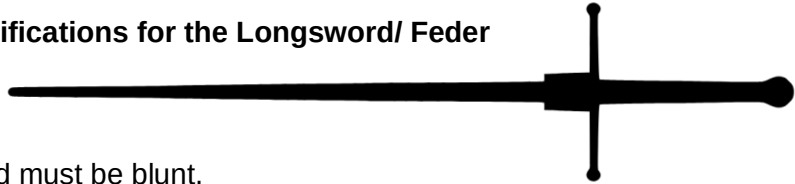


Zuiderslag - Gear requirements

Zuiderslag 2025 weapon requirements

Last edited: 19-10-2025

Specifications for the Longsword/ Feder



- The edges of the sword must be blunt.
- The edge thickness must be at least ± 2 mm.
- The sword must not show any excessive form of rust.
- The sword must not have any sharp nicks, chips, or burrs.
- The total length of the sword may not exceed ± 138 cm.
- The sword's weight must be at least 1400 g and may not exceed 1650 g.

Flexibility Test:

The sword's flexibility may not exceed ± 17 kg.

To measure this, place the sword on a digital scale. Hold the pommel and the middle of the hilt, then press down vertically and centrally.

Tip Requirements:

- The tip of the sword must be either rolled or spatulated in a flat manner.
- It is preferred that the tip is wider or thicker than the blade behind it.
- If this is not the case, the tip must be covered with a rounded rubber cap or a firm piece of leather.
- No blunt or sharp points may be present underneath the tip covering. This will be checked prior to approval.

Design restrictions:

- The sword may not have parrying rings on the sides of the crossguard.
- Flamberge blades are not allowed.
- The pommel and crossguard may not have any sharp points
- When the sword has a schilt the edges should be rounded

A fencer may present multiple weapons for the gear-check

Inspection:

A thorough weapons check will be conducted at the event.

If there is any doubt regarding a presented weapon, the organizers reserve the right to accept or reject it for participation. When in doubt, contact the organization beforehand.

Protective gear requirements Zuiderslag 2025

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General Guidelines

All gear must be in a well-maintained condition: This means that all gear must be well-maintained, clean, and free from damage that could compromise safety or functionality. Equipment showing excessive wear, cracks, tears, rust, or other signs of deterioration will not be permitted.

No visible skin is allowed on any participant. This rule exists to prevent serious injuries caused by sword burrs or tips on exposed skin of a participant.

The listed items are minimum safety requirements. Additional protection (e.g., thigh guards) is allowed. However, **metal protection such as steel armour plates is strictly prohibited.**

If you are uncertain whether a specific piece of gear is permitted, please contact the organization before the tournament or consult the tournament manager on the day of the event. Unapproved gear may be refused by the organization.

Mandatory Equipment

- **Mask:** Must include rear head protection and show no damage (e.g., torn mesh or deep dents). The fencing mask should at least have a resistance of 1600N.
- **Throat Protector:** Hard plate required and must cover the larynx.
- **Chest Protector:** A hard chest protector must be worn under the jacket. This rule applies to all participants, unless the jacket demonstrably includes built-in hard plates that cover the torso.
- **Jacket:** Must be sturdy and well-padded, with no gaps, holes, or tears. Front openings must overlap securely to prevent sword points from entering. The jacket must have a high collar that covers the throat and includes a blade catcher.
 - Ventilation holes or mesh on the back are allowed, provided they are too small for a sword tip to penetrate.
 - The jacket should be made of material which has at least a 350N penetration resistance or more.
 - Jackets with minimal padding (e.g., AP Light or similar) must be worn with a throat protector that covers the collarbones.
- **Elbow Protectors:** Hard plate required and should cover the whole elbow joint of both arms
- **Forearm Protection:** If gloves or jackets do not have cuffs that cover most or all of the forearm, separate forearm protectors are required.
- **Gloves:** The glove must provide adequate protection of the back and side of the hands and the fingers and be made of hard material. The inside of the glove should be made of sturdy material and cannot have any holes or visible skin.
 - Lacrosse gloves, hockey gloves, Red Dragon sparring gloves, and steel armour gloves are **not permitted**.
- **Pants:** Newton-rated pants are mandatory of at least 350N, unless you wear either:
 - A Newton-rated skirt that reaches the knees, or
 - A fencing jacket that extends to the knees.

- **Knee and Shin Protectors:** Hard plate required; and should cover the whole front side of the knee and shin. There may be no gap between the shin and knee guard.
- **Toque:** Mandatory for all participants, regardless of gender.
- **Shoes:** Shoes intended for sports must be worn at all times. Shoes must be clean, with non-marking soles.