

# 2024 Free State Open

## National Open

<b>City</b>	Bloemfontein (LI) University of Free State Exercise and Sports Sciences Centre, University of the Orange Free State, UOVS (this is the "usual" hall with a new name). Enter the university campus via main gate and follow signs.
	**Programme is final
<b>Nation</b>	<b>South Africa</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>Feb 3, 2024 - Feb 4, 2024</b>
<b>Timezone of venue</b>	Africa/Johannesburg (GMT 2)
<b>Participation</b>	INTERNATIONAL OPEN The number of participants is unlimited. Licenses - all fencers must be in possession of a valid FFSA license which must be purchased via their provincial administration. Cost is R400 for 2024  Cost for a Youth license for those under 12 on 31 December 2023 is R150.
<b>Licence required</b>	<b>national licence</b> License level 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants</li> </ul>
<b>Classification</b>	National Ranking
<b>Quota</b>	None
<b>Referees</b>	Referees are not required. Provinces are required to make a referee available in terms of the 2018 Referee Supply Policy. Alternatively, a fine of R2000 may be paid to the organizers by the closing date.  Referees must be entered by the supplying Province on Ophardt by the closing date of entries for the Competition.
<b>Federation</b>	Fencing Federation of South Africa
<b>Organizer</b>	Free State Fencing
<b>Contact</b>	Jurgen Schroder 081 4094780 jurgen@kopanosigns.co.za
<b>Further information</b>	<a href="https://fencing.ophardt.online/en/widget/event/28917">https://fencing.ophardt.online/en/widget/event/28917</a> View entries and results
<b>Entries</b>	Entries to: <a href="https://fencing.ophardt.online/">https://fencing.ophardt.online/</a> <b>until Jan 26, 2024, 1:00:00 AM South Africa Standard Time</b> only by: Athlete , Club , Cancel until Jan 26, 2024, 1:00:00 AM South Africa Standard Time E-Mail: Penny.Thompson@uct.ac.za

Day	Entry desk close	Begin	Continued	Finals	Competition	allowed	Quota	Entry fee
03.02.	07:30	08:00		Foil	Women's   U20	2004 - 2011		ZAR400.00
				Epee	Men's   U20	2004 - 2011		ZAR400.00
	08:30	09:00		Epee	Men's   Veterans	1924 - 39 <sup>1)</sup>		ZAR400.00
	09:30	10:00		Foil	Women's   U17	2007 - 2011		ZAR400.00
	10:30	11:00		Foil	Women's   Senior	1926 - 2006		ZAR400.00

	12:30	13:00	Epee Men's	I U17	2007 - 2011	ZAR400.00
	13:00	13:30	Sabre Women's	I Senior	1926 - 2006	ZAR400.00
	15:00	15:30	Epee Men's	I Senior	1926 - 2006	ZAR400.00
			Epee Women's	I Veterans	1924 - 39 <sup>1)</sup>	ZAR400.00
04.02.	07:30	08:00	Epee Women's	I U20	2004 - 2011	ZAR400.00
	08:00	08:30	Foil Men's	I U20	2004 - 2011	ZAR400.00
			Sabre Men's	I Senior	1926 - 2006	ZAR400.00
	10:00	10:30	Epee Women's	I U17	2007 - 2011	ZAR400.00
	10:30	11:00	Foil Men's	I Senior	1926 - 2006	ZAR400.00
	12:30	13:00	Foil Men's	I U17	2007 - 2011	ZAR400.00
			Epee Women's	I Senior	1926 - 2006	ZAR400.00

<sup>1)</sup> Real age at start of tournament - not year of birth

### Equipment check

Day	Time	Day	Time	Competition
03.02.	07:00 - 14:00			Foil Women's U20 Individual Epee Men's U20 Individual Foil Women's U17 Individual Foil Women's Senior Individual Epee Men's U17 Individual Sabre Women's Senior Individual
04.02.	07:00 - 14:00			Epee Men's Senior Individual Epee Women's U20 Individual Foil Men's U20 Individual Sabre Men's Senior Individual Epee Women's U17 Individual Foil Men's Senior Individual Foil Men's U17 Individual Epee Women's Senior Individual

### Referee meeting

Day	Time	Day	Time	Day	Time	Discipline
03.02.	07:30	04.02.	07:30			Epee
03.02.	07:30	04.02.	07:30			Foil
03.02.	07:30	04.02.	07:30			Sabre

<b>Payment</b>	<b>Payment</b>	<b>Surcharge</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
	Rand	+ZAR0.00 +0.00%	
<b>Competition manager</b>	Penny Thompson		
<b>Head of referees</b>	Louise Lombard		
<b>Format</b>	1 round of poules followed by Direct Elimination		
<b>Rules and legal</b>	National Rules & FIE Apply.		

**ENTRY:** A Fencer will only be permitted to enter his/her own age group, and ONE up - Except where there is no event offered in the Age Group of the Fencer.  
 Fencers must sign-in for each competition at the Registration Table.  
 Fencers are to sign the provided Attendance Register & Indemnity Forms with registration, at the registration desk.  
 The Organising Committee reserves the right to change the order of the programme.  
 Finishing times can only be estimated once all entries have been received. Such times are dependent on the number of entries, availability of Referees and the promptness of Fencers to present themselves on the Piste.

**AGE GROUPS: FIE Season 2023/2024**

**Minimum Age:** No fencer under the age of 12 years on the 31st December 2022 may enter National Open Competitions. Fencers over 8 years on the 31st December 2023 may enter Junior Nationals. Only Fencers who are eligible for the 2024 Cadet World Championship will be allowed to enter Cadet (u17) competitions.  
 Only Fencers who are eligible for the 2024 Junior World Championship will be allowed to enter Junior (u20) competitions.

<b>Liability</b>	Whilst every effort is made in respect of our events, FFSA can not be held liable for force majeure including but not limited to acts of god, affecting date, time or location of events.
<b>Jurisdiction</b>	FFSA & Fencing Western Cape
<b>Anti Doping</b>	Fencers must be aware of doping regulations. Any fencer may be tested. Therapeutic Use Exemptions are required (See FIE.ORG for more information)
<b>Medical</b>	Medical personnel will be available
<b>Equipment</b>	Minimum 350 N <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Weapons, Masks, Electric Jackets, Body Wires, Mask Clips , Sabre Manchettes &amp; Gloves are to be submitted to weapons check before the event, and will be checked again by the officiating referees before pool and DE bouts.</li> <li>2. Plastrons must be worn.</li> <li>3. No tracksuit pants may be worn. Breeches and long socks only.</li> <li>4. All fencers on the piste must have access to at least one spare working weapon, body wire and mask clip at the side of the piste.</li> <li>5. Electric jackets, mask bibs, sabre gloves &amp; manchettes will be tested for dead spots.</li> </ol>
<b>Awards</b>	Medals per event: Gold Silver 2x Bronze, subject to entry numbers
<b>Supplier</b>	Banking details for payment of entry fee of R400 per 2 events and R50 per additional event thereafter: Free State Fencing Capitec Bank ACC NO: 182 617 7319 Proof of payment to: jurgen@kopanosigns.co.za Use fencer surname and FS Open as reference
<b>Catering</b>	The Cafeteria is run by our club.
<b>Remarks</b>	Provinces are required to make a referee available.  Referees must be entered by the supplying Province on Ophardt by the closing date of entries for the Competition.