

## **CAPITOL CLASH**

### **WASHINGTON DC HEMA OPEN 2017**

#### **EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS: SWORD & BUCKLER (ADULT CATEGORY)**

**Note:** In the event of an equipment failure (e.g. blade breakage, straps for forearm guards ripping, etc.) the competitor has 10 minutes to find a replacement or must forfeit the match.

#### **Weapon:**

Participants of the Adult category of the Arming Sword tournament will use a steel single hand sword or steel messer intended for HEMA use. The style of sword should represent a historical one handed weapon from the 15<sup>th</sup> to early 16<sup>th</sup> century. No blatant fantasy designs are allowed: We are recreating historical martial arts, not fantasy role playing. Participants may not use a basket hilt guard, however the cross guard is allowed to have a nagel (the nail protrusion on a messer) or a single ring hilt if the participant desires. The guard is also allowed to have a single knuckle bow, but no other forms of complex hilt are allowed. Blade length may not exceed 36 inches from the cross guard. The weapon is expected to be in good repair, filed down with no jagged nicks or gouges in the blade that could rip an opponent's protective gear, and no dangerous bends or s-curves in the blade (a slight bend is acceptable). All blades must have a rubber blunt or leather wrapped over the point affixed with tape, even if they have a rolled point, as rolled points have been known to pierce fabric and injure combatants. The weapon is expected to be in good repair, filed down with no jagged nicks or gouges in the blade that could rip an opponent's protective gear, and no dangerous bends or s-curves in the blade (a slight bend is acceptable). All blades must have a rubber blunt or leather folded over the point affixed with tape, even if the weapon has a rolled point, as rolled points have been known to pierce fabric and injure combatants.

#### *Acceptable Brands of Swords:*

- Albion "Maestro Line" swords
- Arms and Armor Practice Swords
- Darkwood Armory
- Ensifer
- Regenyei

-Danelli Armouries

*Unacceptable Brands:*

-Hanwei

-Darksword-Armory

Please contact us if you would like to use a sword from another brand not listed.

**Buckler:**

Participants may use a buckler that is steel, wooden, hardened leather or synthetic. The buckler may not be larger than 18" in diameter. The buckler may not have any protrusions on the face (such as spikes or anything designed to catch a blade). The buckler must be in good repair free of jagged edges.

**Apparel:**

*–Padded HEMA jacket, padded fencing jacket, gambeson or equivalent.* A standard fencing jacket without padding is insufficient protection, however a standard fencing jacket combined with a padded undershirt (such as those designed for hockey and lacrosse) is acceptable.

*–Long athletic pants or fencing/HEMA pants combined with long socks.* No shorts, no jeans, no cargo pants. All skin must be completely covered, and there must be complete overlap between the pants and jacket at all times (fencing/HEMA pants with a high waist are therefore highly recommended) If you lift your arms and bare skin can be seen under the jacket, you will not be allowed to participate.

*–Fencing mask (or equivalent) with back of the head protection.* The back of the head protection can be integrated, or it can be a separate add-on to the mask.

*–Rigid throat guard or gorget.*

*–Protective gloves made for HEMA usage (such as those made by SPES, Sparring Glove, or Absolute Force).* Steel/aluminum gauntlets are also acceptable, but participants should only use

them if they are made properly and allow good mobility, as poorly made gauntlets are more of a hindrance than a help. Lacrosse gloves or Red Dragon HEMA gloves are not sufficient for the sword hand, but are allowed for the buckler hand. Please note that the buckler hand must still have a heavy glove in the event that a blade slips through.

*-Rigid elbow and knee protectors.*

*-Rigid forearm and shin guards*

*-Athletic cup for male competitors.*

**Additional Suggestions:**

-Rigid chest protector

-Padding for thighs (such as padded hockey shorts to wear underneath pants, or else padded HEMA pants)

-Spare rubber blunt and tape