



Amateur Fencing Association

Patron: H.M. THE QUEEN

President: Mr. J. EMRYS LLOYD, O.B.E.

Colts,
Kingwood Common,
Henley-on-Thames.

Telephone:
01-385 7442

The de Beaumont Centre,
83 Perham Road,
West Kensington,
London, W.14 9SY

13th April 1973.

Dear Mr. Gough,

The President of the F.I.E. has asked me, in view of Mr. de Beaumont's sad death last year, to hold an enquiry into your application to the F.I.E. to grant you an international fencing licence for 1973.

I have only just received this request and M. Ferri's file of papers on the matter, and it is unfortunately impossible for me, or anyone else, to hold an enquiry in time to be able to report to the F.I.E. before the F.I.E. Congress is held in the second week of May. I shall in fact be abroad from Easter until the eve of the Congress, when your appeal against the Irish Federation's refusal to grant you the licence is due to come up for consideration. In the circumstances it does not seem likely that the Congress will feel able to make any final decision pending the enquiry, but it is, I understand, possible for the Congress, if it thinks fit, to refer the matter back to its Bureau who could, if it so wished, grant a temporary or provisional licence to you until a decision can be made after the conclusion of the enquiry.

I am therefore writing to you at the request of M. Ferri, to invite you to add shortly to the representations you have already made in support of your application for a licence for 1973. I see from the file of correspondence that it is suggested that, since the matter came up before the F.I.E. last year, there have been further developments which have a bearing on the question whether a licence for 1973 should be issued to you. If therefore you accept the F.I.E.'s invitation to you to write to them prior to the Congress next month I suggest that you should inform them whether to your knowledge there have been any further such developments and whether in particular you have adhered to your undertaking given to M. Ferri and Mr. de Beaumont not to communicate with the Press or anyone else about your controversy with the Irish Federation. If you know or have reason to believe why the Irish Federation refused to issue you a licence for this year it would be helpful to M. Ferri if you stated why you consider these reasons invalid.

I am asking you to write to M. Ferri and not to me as there would be no time for me, after my return from abroad, to forward your letter to him for consideration before the Congress opens.



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It will be with great reluctance that I shall hold the enquiry on behalf of the F.I.E. if I have to and I can only ~~now~~ wish that you and your Federation could resolve your problems between each other on agreed terms so as to avoid the need for further intervention by the F.I.E.

I shall not be going abroad till the Easter Week-end and I shall be very ready to help in any way I can towards an amicable agreement being reached. But you will realize that I am expressing no opinions one way or the other nor can I do so while I remain saddled with the unwanted responsibility of enquiring into the matter.

I need hardly say that you are under no obligation to write further to M. Ferri before the Congress unless you wish to.

yours sincerely,

Lawrence Gough Esq.,
46 Upper Mount Street,
Dublin 2.
Ireland.