

## Paired Techniques Demonstration/Competition

A demonstration of interpretation and execution of specific techniques from period manuals in a way that shows your familiarity, application, skill and control in (safely) performing them at speed.

Ideally, we'll have at least three pairs present their interpretations at about ten minutes per pair. That should be time enough to demonstrate the techniques and for the participants to concisely explain their interpretation.

We would like to stress that the competition aspect of this event is not intended to be its sole or even most important focus, but rather to introduce a non-confrontational form of testing our interpretations of certain techniques. Having a panel of judges may help to point out interpretative oversights, and may provide valuable technical feedback. And, obviously, to broaden each club's understanding of the source material. It should be fun, and we are hoping that we all get to learn something new.

### Rules:

Each pair will prepare and present three techniques from their preferred art. Each technique must be described in a historical manual.

Hard copies of the descriptions must be turned over to the judges on the morning of the event so the judges can familiarize themselves with the intent of the technique.

Each pair will have ten minutes to perform their techniques, which will give them time to demonstrate their techniques at full speed, to perform them slowly, and to break down specific portions of their interpretation for the judges. Teams can decide on whichever order they feel is best suited for their particular approach.

After the demonstrations and interpretive explanation, the judges will have the opportunity to question elements of the interpretation or to call for a repeat of the demonstration at whichever speed is necessary.

### Judging:

There will be four judges, ideally from a mixture of the different clubs we have at the event. One from each would do very nicely.

Each team will be judged on three different aspects:

1. **Martial Intent:** The technique should be executed with sufficient speed and precision to show its ideal use in a combat situation. Speed is relative, however, and pairs are encouraged to go no faster than they feel safe in doing.
2. **Balance and Timing/flow:** Since these are prepared actions, maintaining a proper balance throughout is necessary for a good score. Similarly, pre-empting your partner's actions, or having a pair out of synchronization will also be grounds for a loss of points.
3. **Fidelity to the manual:** The pairs will have the chance to explain their interpretation and answer questions from the judges, making sure to point out how their interpretations reflect the descriptions and images (if any) of the source manual.

### Scoring:

Each category will be scored 1-10.

Part 3, Fidelity to the Manual, will be scored *after* each pair has time to answer questions from the judges and explain their interpretation.

### Participating:

If you or any members of your clubs would like to participate, email [info@annarborsword.com](mailto:info@annarborsword.com). Please indicate which techniques from which manuals that you are planning on interpreting. Almost everything is available on Wiktenauer, but personal scans or .PDFs of other manuals are also allowed and encouraged.