

MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR SANCTIONED TOURNAMENTS

Southern California Division of USA Fencing

July 18, 2021

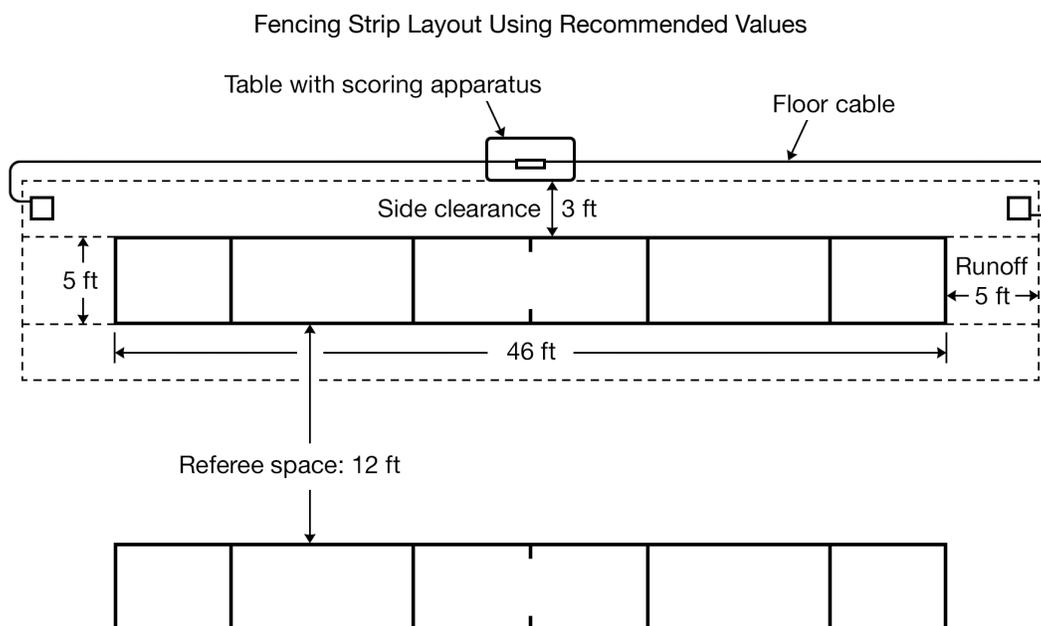
All fencing tournaments sanctioned by the Southern California Division of USA Fencing are required to meet or exceed the following minimum standards.

Every strip used for competition must be surrounded by an obstruction-free zone consisting of *runoffs* extending at least 5 feet from the ends and *side clearances* extending at least 16 inches from the sides of each strip. This area must be free of all tables, chairs, cables, posts, spectators, etc. Only reels and grounding wires are permitted.

Strips may be as long as 46 feet or as short as 40 feet, but in all cases the on-guard lines should be 2 meters (79 inches) from the center of the strip and the 2-meter-warning lines should be 2 meters from each end of the strip.

Pathways must be provided for attendees to safely move about the venue without interfering with the competition.

Sufficient space and easy access must be provided for equipment bags.



Recommended and Minimum Values For Sanctioned Tournaments

	Recommended	Minimum
Strip Width	5 ft	40 in.
Strip Length	46 ft	40 ft
Side Clearance (no obstructions except reels & grounding wire)	3 ft	16 in.
Runoff at each end of strip (free of all obstructions)	5 ft	5 ft
Referee Space, if there is another strip behind referee	12 ft	8 ft
Referee Space, if there is no strip behind referee	10 ft	6 ft

MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR SANCTIONED TOURNAMENTS

Southern California Division of USA Fencing

July 18, 2021

A Few Notes on Fencing Strip Layouts

One of the most important aspects of planning a fencing tournament is determining the most efficient layout for the strips. This is especially critical for smaller venues. The guidelines below are offered to help organizers get the most out of their facilities, while staying in compliance with the Division's minimum standards.

1. When installing an even number of parallel strips, it is about 8% more efficient (in terms of space required) to place the scoring apparatuses, rather than the referee spaces, on each end of the row of strips (see diagram below).
2. The space required between strips for the scoring apparatuses can be reduced by mounting the devices on stands rather than using tables. The Division has four stands available that are only 8 inches wide and can hold two scoring apparatuses, each.
3. A college basketball court (94 x 50 feet) can easily accommodate eight strips. Fitting eight strips on a high school basketball court (84 x 50 feet) is more difficult, but can be done if the above steps are taken and the minimum values are used for the spacing of strips (see diagram below).
4. If necessary, additional space can be saved by forgoing the use of carpet strips (which are 5 x 46 feet, not including runoffs) and marking off smaller strips with tape (which can be as narrow as 40 inches and as short as 40 feet).

Eights Strips On an 84' x 50' Basketball Court

