

FIE COACH PROGRAMME, SABRE

Observations, Learning and Thoughts

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22. Remise

Since the 2002 rule change, the end of the sabre attack has been more defined than any of the other weapons. The attack begins with a turning of the blade towards the target, preceding the step-lunge and ends with the landing of the front foot.

But that's not to say that actions following the landing of the front foot of the lunge don't afford a scoring opportunity. The remise to arm from a head attack is very possible when the defender is retreating and under pressure. It's a good one to start with because the quinte parry exposes the forward target of the forearm and the timing can be immediate from the fingers.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vNOe66Mk-E&list=PLW9OQerjy9W3kizillfQ6wokHKCpTU05Y&index=131>

It's important that this is taught as a direct attack game, with or without the renewal depending on what the coach does. It is not a second intention action, it's simply an immediate counter action following the end of the attack.

From about 1min, the coach puts this together as a game to make sure the fencer is not copying and pasting", but actually reading the "where and when" of the remise. This fencer is clearly used to following instructions, rather than the distance/timing relationship. Note how the coach re-establishes that relationship. And once established, how the parry riposte fits appropriately on the end of the action.

An advanced version of this game would involve the fencer reading whether to take the remise or the counter riposte.

Always happy to take any questions on prof.carson@yahoo.co.uk