

FIE COACH PROGRAMME, SABRE

Observations, Learning and Thoughts

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19. Point in Line

Point-in-Line (line) is an important defensive device, because if correctly established before the final attacking actions of the opponent, right of way shifts to the defender. This provides a building block for many first and second intention defences.

The line must be established prior to the final attack of the fencer (usually a step lunge). Once established, it remains still unless making a derobement, otherwise the line may become void. The derobement is best served by a line that is not formed of a contracted upper arm to enable the actions to be made from the hand.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t_gQGLf_6Pk&list=PLW9OQerjy9W3kizillfQ6wokHKCpTU05Y&index=112

At this next point in the video, the defender takes two steps back to establish point in line. I like this a lot because it gives a clear signal to the referee that the line is well established before the attempted attack-au-fer commences.

https://youtu.be/t_gQGLf_6Pk?t=486

There are many ways to make an attack against a line and each of them affords a different derobement and other potential second intention defences.

https://youtu.be/t_gQGLf_6Pk

Or even a double.

https://youtu.be/t_gQGLf_6Pk?t=627

This last clip is worth paying attention to, because at high speed, it is how you defend with a line against a fast beat attack.

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