

SPORTS MIRROR 6

FENCING ACE GETS THE CHOP!

LAURENCE GOFF, 19-year-old fencer and one-time Olympic aspirant from University College, Dublin, has been expelled from the Irish Amateur Fencing Federation.

Goff has received a letter from Mr. Kim Robinson, Federation chairman, telling him of the ban for "conduct detrimental to the interests and character of the Federation."

Two weeks ago I revealed Goff's feud with the Federation after he had been passed over by their Olympic selectors.

On his record he felt he should have been included on the team and appealed to the Olympic Council of Ireland for a chance of fighting against the four men selected in an Olympic trial.

Goff heard nothing from either the Irish Amateur Fencing Federation or the Olympic Council of Ireland until the letter banning him for life from fencing in Ireland.

Now Goff claims that this violates the Federation's own constitution.

And their constitution certainly decrees that "no suspension shall be for more than one year."

In answer to this Mr. Robinson says: "Goff has now the right to appeal within 10 days. If he does the conduct charged against him will be investigated by the Federation."

And what was the conduct for which Goff had been expelled?

Goff says: "All I have done is to appeal to the Olympic Council of Ireland for an examination of my case. I have gone over the heads of the Federation in this matter. Perhaps this is why I have been expelled. I can think of no other reason."

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