

500 Sulzer looms in Sweden

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In my opinion this move would help to foster the interest in this, our oldest national sport. I would be pleased to supervise or offer my services in any way in accordance with the appropriate sport regulations.

For the benefit of those interested I would like to explain some competition rules.

It must always be remembered that in Schwingen, as in all assessable sports results are open to queries. The ultimate goal of the competitors is to throw his opponent on his back so that both shoulder blades touch the sawdust. The OK of the referee signals the finish of the bout (Gang) and losers and winners are assessed on points. The diversity and true-to-rule performance can have a great bearing on the total points awarded. To count as a valid throw the winner must have a grip with one hand on his opponent's "schwinghosen". Either 9 or 10 points are awarded for a win. A draw gets 8.75 to 9 (according to individual performance). Even a loser can gain a maximum of 8 to 8.75 points. The duration of one bout is according to the rules five minutes, but can be either shortened or lengthened by the discretion of the referee. The referee's reminder to the competitors of the bout's last minute results often in renewed fighting spirits. The referee pairs the competitors as equally as possible, having regard to size, weight and known experience in order to achieve the most competitive performance. The beginning and end of each bout is marked by a friendly handshake of the competitors. The starting grip must be strictly according to rule and from then on the competition is on as long as limb and body are not endangered. Dislocating limbs, and strangulation grips are not permitted, as well as pushing while opponent is in bridge position (supported by head and feet only). The referee is responsible for a fair and safe competition. Each competitor's points are continuously recorded. According to points gained competitors are from time to time newly paired and therefore some delays during the competitions are unavoidable. The competitors with the highest points are called upon for the final bout (Schlussgang) which will give the overall winner (Schwingerkoenig).

These suggestions are put forward in the endeavour to foster old Swiss traditions and to give young Swiss a chance to follow in the footsteps of their forefathers.

Ernst Rust, Hamilton.

P.S.—Any comment regarding the above would be most welcome. Please write to the Editor.

500 Sulzer Looms in Sweden

A few months ago, the 500th Sulzer high speed loom to be delivered to Sweden by this Swiss firm was installed in a Swedish cloth mill. There are at present some 1,200 Sulzer looms in the Scandinavian textile industry as a whole, divided almost equally between factories using cotton, wool and fibres. (SODT)