

Reduced Armor Experiment  
To begin Sept 26, 2022  
Version 1.3 – Updated June 24 2025

### **Summary**

This experiment will be gathering data on the effects of reduced armor for Fencing. Specifically, we will be looking at the impact on injuries, including heat injuries. There will be one area of reduced armor:

- lowering the torso to abrasion resistance.

The coordinating marshal for this experiment is Tonis van Hoorn – if anyone has any questions, feel free to email them at [ealdoremere.fencing.experiment@gmail.com](mailto:ealdoremere.fencing.experiment@gmail.com) or [ealdormere.rapier.masrhal@gmail.com](mailto:ealdormere.rapier.masrhal@gmail.com) and ask away.

### **Primary Reduced Armor Rules**

There is one area of reduced armor that this experiment will be examining, as the newest SCA base rules have been updated.

- Lowering the torso from penetration resistant to abrasion resistant.

A single layer of cloth will be sufficient; it would not need to be drop tested, and no additional armpit layers will be necessary as long as there is no exposed skin.

As a note, the requirement for an attempt at pre-1600's era clothing is still requested.

### **Other rules and notes**

- Cut and Thrust is no longer included in this experiment.
- This experiment does not allow foils, epees, and flexi-daggers to be used with it. (For those who don't know, a "flexi-dagger" is one of those daggers that looks like a really short foil.)
- Melees with a participant in reduced armor are restricted: Maximum Melee size of 40 people, total. Any more than 40 people total and all combatants must armour up SCA minimums. We want to gather data on melees, but still need to limit the numbers.
- Marshals in charge of events and practices may disallow this experiment on their field. I would encourage anyone who feels this way to contact the marshal running the experiment to discuss their concerns.
- Youth Fencing combat/combatants are not included in this experiment.

### **Participation**

To sign up for the experiment, go to google sign up form and fill it out. Only once you receive a confirmation email from the coordinating marshal that you're in, are you good to go. If you have any questions, let Tonis know. If you are participating in the experiment, you are required to submit a report after EVERY EVENT AND PRACTICE you use reduced armor at. We need as much data as possible for this to be a successful experiment.

There is no defined end date of this experiment. It will run until Ealdormere is told to close it down.

**Sign Up Google Form:**

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdk0\\_QEgMyUk9xjvoTQgP1L\\_M1547lyfjT6zFIAsTsMW6kQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdk0_QEgMyUk9xjvoTQgP1L_M1547lyfjT6zFIAsTsMW6kQ/viewform)

**Practice/Event Reporting Google Form:**

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdp8ae7J-HRLmyzOS3ox9-uw3D1eWRIQLajxkCL84b1FWbHtw/viewform>