

# Jane Rode-Eyre and Ellen O'Leary

take home 4 Gold Medals from World Veteran Fencing  
Championships in Debrecen, Hungary



Gold medalists Jane Eyre and Ellen O'Leary. Photo Credit: Wang Yung



US Vet 60-69 medalists Jennette Starks-Faulkner (silver), Jane Eyre (gold) and Linda Dunn (bronze).

## **(Colorado Springs, Colo.) – Team USA dominated the women’s saber events at the Veteran World Championships on Saturday in Debrecen, Hungary**

**Jane Eyre (Swedesboro, N.J.)** became the most decorated veteran fencer in Team USA’s history when she claimed her fourth individual title and led the Americans to a 1-2-3 in the 60-69 saber event.

Eyre came into the tournament as the reigning World Champion in the event and a former World Champion as a 50-59 fencer where she won titles in 2005 and 2010.

Eyre was nearly unstoppable in the pool rounds where she went undefeated and gave up just three touches to her five opponents to take the No. 1 seed in the direct elimination rounds. Eyre’s teammates, **Jennette Starks-Faulkner (Middletown, Conn.)** and **Delia Turner (Philadelphia, Pa.)**, earned the second and third seeds and **Linda Dunn (Greenfield, Ind.)** finished sixth in the rankings.

All four U.S. athletes earned byes into the table of 16 where Eyre defeated **Noelle Yvrard (FRA)**, 10-3.

Starks-Faulkner, who took up saber for the first time this year, was fresh off a gold medal win in the 60-69 foil event on Friday.

The long day appeared to have little effect as narrowly missed a shutout with a 10-1 win over **Agnes Rutherford (FRA)**.

Turner, a three-time Vet World Champion, controlled her bout against **Susan Benney (GBR)** for a 10-2 win.

Dunn, who won silver at the 2012 Vet Worlds, set up a quarter-final bout against Turner after she defeated **Yvonne Walls (GBR)**, 10-6.

In the quarters, Dunn won the bout against her teammate, 10-8, and Turner finished fifth.

Eyre and Starks-Faulkner secured Team USA’s three-medal finish with wins over four-time Vet World Champion **Iris Gardini (ITA)** and **Kaoru Amari (JPN)** by 10-3 and 10-7 scores, respectively.

In the semifinals, Eyre defeated **Vivien Frith (GBR)**, 10-7, and Starks-Faulkner won her bout against Dunn, 10-3.

With the score tied at two in their final bout, Eyre scored seven straight to take a 9-2 lead in the second period. Starks-Faulkner whittled Eyre’s lead down with four unanswered touches before Eyre closed out the bout, 10-6.

In the +70 women’s saber event, **Ellen O’Leary (Decatur, Ga.)** returned to fence for her second Vet World title after winning gold in 2012.

O’Leary and teammate **Catherine Radle (Atlanta, Ga.)** both advanced from the pool rounds into the quarters.

O’Leary defeated 2013 bronze medalist **Yoshiko Tachibana (JPN)** in the quarters, 10-3. Radle, who won bronze in the +70 epee event on Wednesday, lost to **Marie-Chantal DeMaille (FRA)**, 10-4.

O’Leary advanced to the finals against defeated six-time Veteran World Champion DeMaille who won the foil and epee titles earlier in the week and defeated O’Leary in the gold medal final in 2013.

This time, the bout was close again with the score tied at five early in the second period. With her teammates cheering her on, O’Leary scored five-straight touches to defeat her rival, 10-5.