

Worthing Fencing Club Member's Code of Conduct

Members

- Be on time for training and competitions
- Observe safety guidelines and never attack an opponent who isn't wearing full safety gear or expecting an attack in a match or training exercise
- Be aware of your surroundings; do not walk through a match or training class, especially if unmasked
- Carry and hold your sword safely when not fencing
- Wear suitable clothing for the activity in which you are taking part
- Make sure your and your opponent's gear is on correctly, and that you have a safe space in which to fence
- Stop immediately if a senior member of staff calls 'Halt!'
- Always observe fencing etiquette for opponents, referees, officials and others in a match and during competitions
- Accept success and failure with dignity and set a positive example
- Protect others involved in the game from abuse or intimidation (such as bullying)
- Respect the equipment and facilities you use
- Tell someone you trust if the behaviour of others makes you uncomfortable in any way

Coaches

- All fencing coaches must ensure that every individual particularly all young/vulnerable people in their care are respected as individuals and treated equitably and with dignity at all times. They should ensure that all training complies with the current guidance issued by British Fencing and does not form any sort of abuse (emotional, physical, sexual, bullying, neglect etc.)
- All relationships should be based on respect, honesty and openness.
- All fencing coaches should recognise the personal development of young fencers takes priority even over the development of their performance.
- All fencing coaches should encourage young/vulnerable fencers to be responsible for their own behaviour and performance.
- All fencing coaches should have an ongoing commitment to their own training and work with others (i.e. referees, medical advisors, sports scientists, parents and other coaches) to ensure the safety and enjoyment of all fencers in order that they can develop both within fencing as well as outside.
- All fencing coaches should respect a fencer's need for confidentiality.
- All fencing coaches should work within their own competency and qualifications.
- All fencing coaches should strive to be positive role models, working within British Fencing guidance displaying high standards of personal behaviour.

- All fencing coaches have a responsibility to develop in partnership with all fencers particularly parents and young/vulnerable fencers clear expectations both on and off the piste and what the young/vulnerable fencer is entitled in return to expect of the coach.
- All fencing coaches should promote good behaviour within the rules of Fencing.

Parents and Carers

- Encourage your child to learn the rules and play within them.
- Discourage unfair play and arguing with officials.
- Help your child to recognise good performance, not just results.
- Never force your child to take part in sport.
- Set a good example by recognizing fair play and applauding good performance of all.
- Publicly accept officials' judgments.
- Support your child's involvement and help them to enjoy their sport.
- Use correct and proper language at all times.
- Encourage and guide participants to accept responsibility for their own performance and behaviour.
- Always recognise when your child has done their best
- Never verbally or physically abuse a child for failure