

COLUMBIA FENCERS' CLUB NEWSLETTER

Re-start update: Plans in progress. More details soon.

Dear CFC Fencers & Friends, and our over-200 eager prospective fencers,

Useful Information for our Restart:

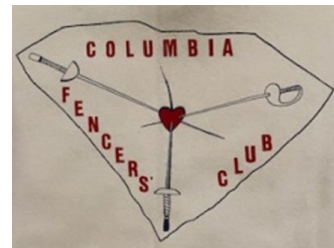
USA FENCING MEMBERSHIP: Renew or Purchase your annual non-competitive membership with USA



Fencing **NOW** for \$10. **On August 1, 2022 (next Monday), the cost goes up to \$15.** Your membership will be good through 7/31/23. **Sign up online.** To join USA

Fencing or renew: Log-in or create an account at <https://member.usafencing.org/> **Since Columbia Fencers' Club is**

a Premium (& insured) member club of USA Fencing, all participants in CFC activities (fencing classes, lessons, open bouts, etc.) must be members of USA Fencing. "Drop-In" fencers from other clubs must also be USA Fencing members. CFC fencers: Please register your "Division" as "SC", and club as "Columbia Fencers' Club".



The USA Fencing season runs Aug 1, 2022- July 31, 2023. (New fencers joining after April 1, 2022 are credited with membership extending through July 31, 2023.) More info about types of memberships — <https://www.usafencing.org/membership> and <https://member.usafencing.org/membership-types>

The minimum individual membership level is called "**Noncompetitive**" (\$10 per year; after Aug 1, it goes up to \$15 per year). This is appropriate for all beginners, students in our classes, and noncompetitors. You can always upgrade your membership during the fencing season if you decide to enter competition.

There is a recent **new membership category** for individual members who compete called the "**Access Membership**" level (\$25 per year). **Access members can compete at all sanctioned local tournaments (anything you can register for on AskFred, including Division Qualifiers).**

The "**Competitive**" (\$90) membership level is only needed if you decide to compete at North American Cups or Regional point events, Nationals, or Junior Olympics. (See p. 2 of this newsletter for more information.)

COLUMBIA FENCERS' CLUB DUES/CLASSES: More information to be announced soon.

CFC REQUIREMENTS RE: FACIAL COVERINGS (mask under the fencing mask): This will still be required by CFC until further notice based on vulnerabilities of many in our group and their families.

CFC VACCINATION REQUIREMENT: CFC will also require proof of COVID vaccination for all participants AND spectators admitted into the fencing area.

Health and safety remain our priority at CFC. We look forward to restarting soon.

Hoping you and your loved ones are well. It's frustrating to see high COVID rates again with the BA.5 and other variants. Please take care.



Can you spot what's missing in this picture?

Right! — It's us! CFC returning soon!

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ALL IN-PERSON MEETINGS STILL POSTPONED since March 15, 2020. This was our first and only halt in 35 years. Announcing our restart soon.

USE OF CFC FENCING EQUIPMENT: In compliance with USA Fencing's recommendations to minimize shared use of equipment, we will be assigning a set of gear to beginning fencers that you will take home and bring to class for each meeting. A deposit at the first class will be refunded when you return the equipment at the last class. Fencers will have an option to purchase or rent gear. You do not have to purchase any gear until you have had an opportunity to try this exciting sport.

We can provide all our fencers with information about purchasing a new starter set from fencing companies, or discounted gear from the club or from fencers who may wish to sell gear they have outgrown or no longer use. Details about plans are forthcoming. [Sellers: Try on your gear and see what fits. I suggest you make a detailed inventory of whatever you may wish to sell, including description of item, size, RH/LH, brand, company, foil/epee, electric/nonelectric, its condition, etc.] We will announce a way to share information soon.

POLICIES & PROTOCOLS: We will announce more on our program & schedule soon.

FOR OUR COMPETITIVE (& aspiring competitive) MEMBERS:

Find the latest USA Fencing updates, at <https://www.usafencing.org/>

HOW DO I FIND OUT ABOUT TOURNAMENTS? Upcoming local tournaments & clinics throughout the country are listed on <https://askfred.net/>

(FRED is an acronym for Fencing Results and Events Database). Check "AskFRED" regularly as events are frequently added & cancelled. **Questions? Ask Jane.** You must have an "Access" level membership (\$25 per yr) in USA Fencing to be eligible to register for sanctioned tournaments.

National and Regional events are listed on the USA Fencing website.

National events for 2022-23 are at <https://www.usafencing.org/22-23-nationalcalendar>

Regional events for 2022-23 are listed at <https://www.usafencing.org/regional-calendar>

You must have a "Competitive" level membership (\$90 per yr) to be eligible to register for the "National and Regional events."

AGE ELIGIBILITY: The age categories for competitions are determined by your Birth Year. For clarification of which events you are eligible to enter during the 2022-23 season, see the Age and Eligibility chart and scroll down to the chart marked "A". <https://www.usafencing.org/age-classification-eligibility>

WHAT ARE "CLASSIFICATIONS"? See the USA Fencing Event Classification Chart <https://askfred.net/Info/eventClass.php> This explains how to earn classifications: "A", "B", "C", "D", "E", starting from Unclassified "U".

UPCOMING EVENTS: The SC Division website lists local events for the season. <http://scfencing.org/calendar/> We anticipate that this will be updated soon for the new season that begins August 1, 2022.

VIDEOS To VIEW: Videos from the final day of the 2022 World Championships that took place July 15-23, 2022 in Cairo, Egypt are at <https://fie.org/live> . Scroll down. Other videos from other events during those 9 days may also be available.

Videos from the 2022 Summer Nationals and July Challenge are at <https://www.youtube.com/user/USAFencing/videos> (Scroll down for the Div 1 and earlier events.)

More video links are to many interesting bouts are provided in previous CFC Newsletters.

COLUMBIA FENCERS' CLUB

CFC CLUB INFORMATION

SIGN-IN SHEET: Those who “owe” brownies— We know who you are and have not forgotten!! We will adapt the sign-in protocol to minimize contact and maintain social distancing.

CLOTHING REMINDERS: T-shirt, long pants, athletic shoes, socks. (Legs, ankles, torso must be fully covered) (No shorts, sandals, crocs, or boots.) If you wear fencing pants ('knickers' that cover the knee), you must wear long socks that fully cover the leg. Safety comes first. The facility is heated and air conditioned.

REQUIREMENTS RE: FACIAL COVERINGS (MASKS UNDER FENCING MASKS):

CFC requires a mask under the mask until further notice.

The mask must cover the nose and mouth. “Face coverings must be two-layer cloth masks or surgical face coverings. Single-layer gaiters, bandannas, masks with vents and inserts that clip into the fencing mask and do not fully contact the athlete's face **are not permitted.**” Spectators who are not fencing must also be vaccinated and wear masks.

CLASSES & CLUB SCHEDULE: To be announced soon. I will specify types of classes, meeting times, fees, etc. We will continue with both foil and epee.

USA FENCING MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENT: Minimum level: “Noncompetitive” (\$15 per year)

NEW FENCERS? New fencers are welcome to contact me so I can put you on our general club mailing list to be ready when in-person instruction resumes. **New fencers (youth and adults) are welcome.** No experience or equipment is necessary. Only those fully vaccinated and willing to mask may enroll for now.



Columbia Fencers' Club meets on Tues, Wed, & Thurs at
Seven Oaks Park 200 Leisure Lane Columbia, SC 29210
<https://www.icrc.net/parks/seven-oaks-park>

Best en gardes,

Jane

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Columbia Fencers' Club www.columbiafc.com

(If you no longer wish to receive the CFC monthly newsletter, please contact me, and I will remove your name from our mailing list.)