



THE sword

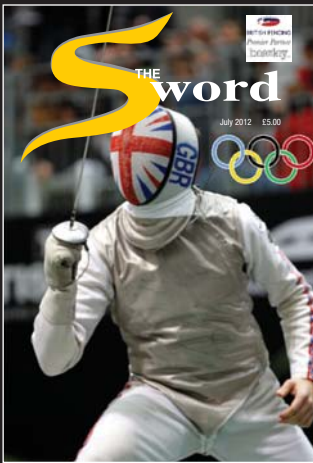
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THE SWORD

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Fencing News

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Fencers I've been with recently have heard me say, "there's much at stake". I did so at the EGM and in my web message afterwards. Let me use this important space in *The Sword* to explain.



Our 3G strategy was never going to be easy. Grow and Gold are big ambitions, for any sport. British Fencing is lucky to be chasing these goals of growth and medals in an era when public funding is available – and, thanks to the National Lottery, recent funding levels can be maintained in the next cycle, which is 2013-2017. We are also fortunate, in times of recession, to have great private sponsors, in Beazley especially. Just recently their fencing display with Hilliers at the Chelsea Flower Show was sponsor support at its very best – and our young fencers actually met the Queen!

Our finances now depend a lot on public funding; it's about 50% of our income. By comparison with many other sports, that percentage is on the low side, but it's still a big amount at stake. In the last three months we have prepared our funding submissions for 2013-17 – for

Gold, to UK Sport, and for Grow, to Sport England. Both were big documents in every sense. Our bids are studied by both agencies during the summer and we then face an 'oral' in October, with final decisions in December.

Therein lies some of the importance of the Green strategy. The Government requires its funding agencies to ensure there is effective governance in bodies receiving the taxpayer and Lottery monies. At stake now is our Green rating, achieved last Autumn after two years of 'Red' assessments. We know that good governance is also vital to our members; it underpins the value for money we aim to deliver.

Your Board called the EGM in May to seek members' agreement to changes in Articles we believe essential to our good governance. On the day, we accepted that members present (and sending proxies) wanted us to consult further and review the proposals: we shall do so, and there will be Roadshow and meeting opportunities for all of you to take part. Please do so. Final decisions will be taken by members at the AGM in October. I say again, much is at stake, if we are to make our sport stronger, better, even more fun for even more people.

Of course our Gold objectives are also at stake in the London Games, which as I write are almost upon us. Let's all get behind our GB fencing team. Perhaps even more important – let's all enjoy what should be, once again, the greatest sporting show on earth.

David Teasdale

Andrew McIndoe and John Hillier of Hillier Nurseries introduce the Queen, patron of British Fencing, to Alex O'Connell and James Honeybone at the Chelsea Flower Show where the two fencers were taking part in a fencing themed display.





Beazley recently held a showcase event for Olympic and Paralympic fencing hopefuls in Hays Galleria, near London Bridge station. Laurence Halsted explained the action to spectators and encouraged onlookers to have a go. 150 Beazley guests and staff attended the event, which follows on from the successful fencing demonstrations held in Devonshire Square and Leadenhall Market last year, in association with Beazley's five year sponsorship of British Fencing.



A group of people who will be working for Cisco and BT during London 2012 got to know each other and experienced fencing for the first time with Nick Payne's corporate team building organisation, Sword Fighting International. With the help of Gareth Thomas and Mary Cohen, they were divided into three groups of 40 for a 45-minute session during which they practised co-ordination, balance and timing. SFI has introduced fencing to 60-70 organisations and over 1000 people. It is looking for instructors with Level 1 in foil, epee or sabre, especially for work around Games time; further details from nick.payne@swordfightinginternational.com. (photo: James Rattee)

1948 AUSTERITY OLYMPICS

Four times Olympic foilist Emrys Lloyd, who carried the British team flag at the 1948 opening ceremony, is the subject of an exhibition being held by the law firm in which he was a partner, Farrer & Co. Entitled *Farrers and the Austerity Games*, it pays due credit for the first time to the unique role Emrys played in being a competitor at the same Olympics in which he had set up the Organising Committee and then personally handled all the legal and contractual work – at no charge.

On loan from British Fencing for the exhibition are two fencing scrapbooks – one left by Emrys (twice an Olympic finalist, who missed winning a bronze medal in 1948 by one victory), and the other Charles de Beaumont's 1948 Olympics book. The National Fencing Museum has lent a period foil, mask, glove and shoes, as well as a bronze Olympic competitor's badge. The exhibition is being held from 3 July to 30 September at 20-23 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3ES.



Two bronze fencing sculptures by Sophie Dickens were exhibited recently at the Sladmore Contemporary studio in London as part of an Olympic sports theme. Inspired by the 19th century motion sequence photographer Edward Muybridge, the fencers are shown on guard (22 cm high) and on the lunge (17.5 cm high). They are priced at £1450 each.



Specialist bone china maker Bob Norfolk is offering to print a club's logo inside these fencing mugs for orders of 48 or more. Colourfully decorated with images from fencing's past, they cost £9.99 each, with p&p at £2 for one, £5 for a set and free carriage for any order of 48 or more. Available from: Unique Bone China, Heasewood Farmhouse, Isaacs Lane, Haywards Heath, West Sussex RH16 4RZ; or via the website www.uniquebonechina.com

COLLECTORS' CORNER

Three items of British fencing history have recently been acquired by the National Fencing Museum. **1.** The Statutes and Rules for Competitions of the Ladies' Cercle d'Esgrime, 1907, had as its principal aim "the development of a friendly feeling among all ladies interested in the Art of Fencing". Membership could be withdrawn "on account of any grave reason affecting the character or social position of a member".

The club held an annual Grand Fencing Display, with the proceeds devoted to the relief of Professors of Fencing in distress, or their widows. The costume worn was a white padded jacket, a white, black or coloured skirt reaching halfway between the knee and ankle or knickerbockers and special fencing shoes. Competitors had to observe the strictest silence during the contest, but when hit had to distinctly name the part of the body touched. They could be disqualified for attacking with a bent arm, making repeated stabbing movements, turning the back on their adversary, or using unsuitable language.

2. A silver cup hallmarked Sheffield 1911, JD&S (James Dixon & Sons), inscribed *International Fencing Tournament London 1913. Epée Team, 2nd Prize*. The 1913 tournament at the Imperial Services Exhibition, Earl's Court, was the most successful fencing competition so far held in England, attracting 125 entries (72 foreign) to the epee individual and 46 (29 foreign) to the sabre. Five nations took part in the epee team event, which was won by France with Belgium, which received this cup, second.

3. The Desborough foil medal in its original case. This 60 mm diameter silver medal designed by Felix Joubert was struck by the London Fencing Club in 1928 to mark ten years' service by foil coach Jean-Baptiste Mimiague and was awarded annually to the club's most promising foilist. ■



This 145 mm high silver cup was the second prize at the 1913 London international epee team competition

The Desborough foil medal depicts the London Fencing Club's coach Jean-Baptiste Mimiague



News from the President



I want to begin by offering our congratulations to Her Majesty, The Queen. She is the Patron of British Fencing and in her Diamond Jubilee year, I am pleased to offer our thanks for all that she has done for this country and the Commonwealth.

I would also like to publicly acknowledge the loss to our sport of John Ramsay, James Chambers and Roy Goodall. Each served fencing tirelessly and with real vigour and dedication over their lifetimes. We will all miss their immense contributions.

The Olympic Games are almost upon us. Although there is a clear focus on this event for our chosen fencers and the Performance Team headed by Alex Newton, it is vital that we do not lose sight of the future of our sport. Our young fencers are the future and I was pleased to hear that the British Youth Championships went so well. Equally pleasing were the UK School Games. Having negotiated our entry into the UKSG at the outset, with the full support of Julia Bracewell, then Chair of Sports Scotland, I am pleased that fencing continues to benefit from involvement in these youth games. It has allowed British Fencing to employ extra personnel and access the financial support of the Youth Sport Trust. I am also pleased to have organised the participation of our cadet epeeists in a training camp in Germany and our foilists in a similar camp in France. It is good that both France and Germany will be sending sabreurs to our National Academy camp this summer.

I want to publicly thank Penny Spink for her immense efforts with Sports Aid and the hundreds of thousands of pounds raised for our younger fencers. Penny is handing this responsibility over to the BFA professional staff as she retires from the Board. Alex Newton is responsible for negotiating with UK Sport and David Teasdale is handling negotiations with Sport England for future funding. I hope we can maintain our current funding levels post-2012. Clearly both streams of funding will be vital for our elite fencers and more crucially to continue the growth and operation of our sport.

Richard Kruse has qualified for his third Olympics and Natalia Sheppard for her first; both deserve our fullest congratulations. Having ten fencers competing (courtesy of the host-nation places) is our largest number since 1992. Olympic excitement is catching on; Penny Spink, Kate Allenby, Henry de Silva and Connie Adam have all been privileged to carry the Olympic Torch on its UK relay. We must not forget our wheelchair fencers as they prepare for the Paralympic Games; they are truly inspirational and deserve our fullest support.

Our senior internationals have continued to compete in FIE competitions and it is pleasing to see top 16 placings from Richard Kruse, Mary Cohen, Jo Hutchison (twice), Natalia Sheppard and Husayn Rosowsky, and also our men's foil team coming 4th in the Seoul World Cup team competition. Our veterans continue to bring home gold, with the women's sabre team winning the European championship; many congratulations to them.

The summer is going to be busy for fencing. I am an FIE referee delegate at the Olympics and then a referee at Modern Pentathlon, before acting as a volunteer at the Paralympics. I know many of you are also involved and I wish you all a great summer of sport. It will be the opportunity for many officials, referees and volunteers to have their first, and possibly only, Olympic and Paralympic experience.

October will be a crucial month for the future of British Fencing. We will have the Olympic results and are holding our AGM. I do urge members to attend the AGM and contribute to the future of their sport. There will also be elections for the Board, with four directors retiring. In April there will be another four posts up for election. The new directors will serve alongside Piers Martin (CEO) and David Teasdale (Chair). It is vital that people both consider standing for election and also voting in the Board elections. British Fencing is in a critically important time and needs the participation of its members. ■

Keith Smith
keithfence@aol.com

Britain's Team for the Olympics

The British Olympic Association (BOA) has confirmed that the following fencers will take part in the London Olympic Games:

Men's Foil – Richard Kruse, James Davis, Husayn Rosowsky and Laurence Halsted as team reserve

Women's Foil – Natalia Sheppard, Anna Bentley, Sophie Troiano and Martina Emanuel as team reserve

Women's Epee – Corinna Lawrence

Men's Sabre – James Honeybone

Women's Sabre – Louise Bond-Williams, Sophie Williams

Two fencers qualified by right: Richard Kruse and Natalia Sheppard; the rest were nominated for host-nation places, which are a one-off for these London Games, and discretionary. Nominations for these special places were made by the Performance Team, which is made up of: Alex Newton (performance manager), Ziemek Wojciechowski (MF coach), Maciej Wojtkowiak (WF coach), Jon Salfield (MS & WS coach), Alex Agrenich (ME & WE coach), Ed Mias (physio), Dr Richard Seah (doctor), Rhys Ingram (strength & conditioning coach), David Fulcher (performance analyst) and Maxine McCombie (operations & logistics manager).

The nominations were tested by the Performance Advisory Group chaired by Piers Martin (CEO), with members Keith Smith (president), Tom Cadman, Johnny Davis and Nick Fletcher (weapon representatives), Dr Clare Halsted (youth committee), Mike Thornton (Board director), Barry Paul (equipment), and observers Helen Cartwright (UK Sport), Georgina Harland (BOA), Jos Hoyte-Smith (EIS) and David Teasdale (BF Chair). Final decisions were made by an independent Olympic Selection Panel comprising Daniel Saoul (non-voting chairman), Dominic Mahoney (former British epee champion), Derek Mapp (chairman of the Amateur Boxing Association) and Philip Kimberley (chairman of England Hockey). After appeals had been heard and turned down by Sport Resolutions UK, the selections were confirmed by the BOA.

Alex Newton said the Performance Team felt that, apart from Louise Bond-Williams and James Davis, no individual fencer should be offered a host-nation place based on potential to win a medal at this year's Olympics. Bond-Williams was the highest ranked female sabreur at the time of selection and the only WS fencer to have beaten a world top 10 fencer during the Olympic qualification period. Although on the World Class Programme for less than a year, Davis had already achieved a World Cup L8 during the qualifying period.

It was a surprise to many fencers that in women's sabre Sophie Williams was selected over the higher ranked Joanna Hutchison and Chrystall Nicoll. Newton said, "There has been much public speculation and commentary on the WS selections. In reality, all three athletes outside the top 50 were ... considered as 2016 prospects. In the toughest ever international competition environment for WS, her [*Sophie Williams's*] performance trajectory is impressive; she is on a higher curve than our other women sabreurs. Although all three had broadly similar results over the qualifying period, Sophie Williams shows the greatest promise for the future, in particular for Rio 2016."

The Performance Team nominated other fencers considered to be on a trajectory to qualify and perform in Rio 2016. Corinna Lawrence achieved the highest position of all British fencers at the 2011 World Championships with a L16 place, and performed well against higher ranked fencers at the European zone qualifier. James Honeybone beat some of the world's best fencers during the qualification period and was, by some margin, Britain's highest ranked male sabreur.

Men's and women's foil were considered to be the only eligible GBR teams likely to achieve a minimum of a L8 finish (women's sabre does not have a team event in 2012). Men's foil has the most strength in depth across well established fencers and strong young development fencers. Two host-nation places to make up the men's team were awarded to Davis and Husayn Rosowsky, with Laurence Halsted as reserve.

Women's foil has not lost a match to a lower ranked team and has defeated a number of teams higher in the rankings. To enable the team to take part in the Olympics, the last two host-nation places were given to Anna Bentley and Sophie Troiano, with Martina Emanuel as reserve.

QUALIFIERS

After the last Olympic qualification event in March, Kruse found himself tied on World Cup points with Hertsyk (UKR) for the final automatic European Olympic place. As the Ukrainian had better final placings, Kruse had to win a satellite event in Copenhagen to overtake him – he did just that. Interestingly, Kruse and Hertsyk met in the L16, Kruse winning a tough match 15-13 from 12-13 down before beating Toldo (BRA) 14-11 at time and Koltygo (UKR) 15-11. In the final he faced Trani (ITA) and led for much of the fight, but the Italian levelled the score at 12-all by the end of normal time. In the last minute, despite not having priority, Kruse scored the winning hit.

Alex Newton said, "This is the first time we have qualified through world rankings since before Sydney." After Kruse's qualification, bookmakers William Hill were offering odds of 14-1 on him winning a gold medal and 9-2 on any medal.

Natalia Sheppard qualified by reaching the top two at the European zonal event. Third seed after the poules, she comfortably beat home favourite, Cellerova (SVK), 15-4 in the quarter-finals before facing Ghita (ROU) for one of the Olympic spots. 2-5 down in the second period, she pulled it back to 5-all by the break. Both fencers elected to use non-combativity to take the fight into the final minute. They reached 6-all and, with 19 seconds left, Sheppard scored the crucial 13th hit, forcing the Romanian to make the running and allowing Sheppard to close the fight out 10-6 at time. ■

Malcolm Fare

FENCING SCHEDULE AT THE ExCeL CENTRE

Women's foil – individual	28.7								
Men's sabre – individual		29.7							
Women's epee – individual			30.7						
Men's foil – individual				31.7					
Men's epee – individual					1.8				
Women's sabre – individual					1.8				
Women's foil – team						2.8			
Men's sabre – team							3.8		
Women's epee – team								4.8	
Men's foil – team									5.8

Richard Kruse
(age 29 the day before the men's foil individual)

No. 4 in the world in 2009, four World Cup titles, 8th in the 2004 Olympics & 2003 world championship, twice senior European silver medallist & twice bronze, junior European champion & silver medallist, three times British champion. Twelve times in GB team (nine world championships, three Olympics).



James Davis
(age 21)

6th in Wakayama World Cup event this year & the only British fencer to win a medal at the Cadet European championships (bronze in 2008), twice British junior champion. First time in GB team.



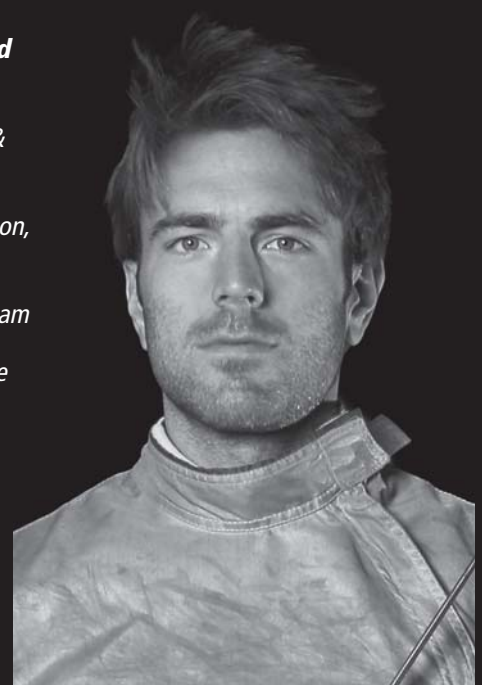
Husayan Rosowsky
(age 21)

2011 British champion. Junior champion in 2010 and winner of the Leon Paul satellite tournament. First time in GB team.



Team reserve Laurence Halsted
(age 28)

European silver medallist in 2008 & bronze medallist in 2009 when he was also British champion, European junior champion in 2001. Five times in GB team (four world championships, one Olympics).





Natalia Sheppard (age 28)
 Runner-up in European zone qualifier, 2010 British champion. Three times in GB team (two world championships, one Olympics).



Anna Bentley (age 31)
 Three times British champion. Five times in GB team (four world championships, one Olympics).



Sophie Troiano (age 21)
 Runner-up in last year's British championship, 2006 British junior champion. First time in GB team.



Team reserve Martina Emanuel (age 26)
 2011 British champion & runner-up in 2007. Six times in GB team (four world championships, two Olympics).



Corinna Lawrence (age 22)
 Junior European bronze medallist in 2008, British champion in 2009, twice junior & cadet champion, double Commonwealth Junior champion. Four times in GB team (three world championships, one Olympics).



James Honeybone (age 21)
 Runner-up in 2011 British championship, twice junior & cadet champion. Twice in GB team (one world championship, one Olympics).

Louise Bond-Williams (age 30)
 Bronze medallist as a 16-year-old in the first women's sabre world championship trial event in 1998 & twice a world silver medallist (cadet in 1999 & junior in 2002), British champion a record ten times (equal with Gillian Sheen in foil) & twice junior champion, 1998 Commonwealth champion. Twelve times in GB team (ten world championships, two Olympics).



Sophie Williams (age 21)
 Runner-up in the 2007 British championship as a 16-year-old & bronze medallist in 2010 when she was Commonwealth silver medallist, junior champion in 2009. Twice in GB team (one world championship, one Olympics).



The Games Line-up

The individual events bring together a core of 36 fencers in each weapon that has a team event – men’s foil, women’s foil, women’s epee and men’s sabre, and 30 fencers in the weapons that do not – men’s epee and women’s sabre, plus Britain’s eight host-nation places.

TEAM QUALIFICATION

The team events consist of eight teams at each weapon, except men’s and women’s foil which have nine because of Britain’s host-nation allocation. Each team is composed of three fencers, with a reserve available as a once-only replacement. The first four teams in the FIE official ranking at 31 March 2012 were automatically selected irrespective of which zone they came from. Then the highest ranked team from each of the four world zones – Europe, Asia-Oceania, America and Africa – among teams ranked 5th to 16th. If a zone was not represented in the world top 16, the next team in the official ranking qualified, irrespective of its zone.

The teams taking part in the Olympic Games, with rankings updated as of 2 July, are listed below – with the names of the individuals expected to make up each team, plus a reserve, although federations do not have to submit names until 9 July (world ranking in brackets).

MEN’S FOIL

1. Italy – Cassara (1), Aspromonte (2), Baldini (14) + Avola (3) as reserve
2. China – Ma (4), Lei (9), Zhu (37) + Huang (22) as reserve
3. Germany – Joppich (11), Bachmann (17), Kleibrink (18) + Braun (48) as reserve
4. France – Sintès (10), Le Pechoux (12), Lefort (27) + Marcilloux (57) as reserve
5. USA – Imboden (5), Massialas (13), Chamley-Watson (30) + Meinhardt (19) as reserve
6. Russia – Cheremisinov (7), Ganeev (20), Akhmatkhuzin (21) + Sedov (31) as reserve
7. Japan – Ota (16), Miyake (24), Chida (29) + Awaji (32) as reserve
8. Egypt – Abouelkassem (8), Ayad (39), Mostafa (379) + Farrag (51) as reserve

9. Great Britain – Kruse (15), Davis (28), Rosowsky (56) + Halsted (77) as reserve

Britain will fight off against Egypt for eighth place in the Olympic tableau, with the winner meeting the No. 1 seeds.

WOMEN’S FOIL

1. Italy – Vezzali (1), Di Francisca (3), Errigo (4) + Salvatori (8) as reserve
2. Russia – Deriglazova (11), Shanaeva (12), Gafurzianova (14) + Lamonova (20) as reserve
3. Korea – Nam (2), Jeon (13), Jung (24) + Oh (27) as reserve
4. France – Maitrejean (6), Guyart (7), Thibus (30) + Gebet (33) as reserve
5. Poland – Gruchala (9), Wojtkowiak (18), Synoradzka (21) + Rybicka (31) as reserve
6. USA – Kiefer (5), Prescod (19), Ross (26) + Willette (22) as reserve
7. Japan – Sugawara (25), Ikehata (36), Nishioka (71) + Yoshizawa (40) as reserve
8. Egypt – Gaber (37), El Gammal S (45), El Gammal E (48) + El Hussein (60) as reserve
9. Great Britain – Sheppard (42), Troiano (100), Bentley (165) + Emmanuel (73) as reserve

As in men’s foil, Britain will fight off against Egypt for the privilege of taking on Italy.

WOMEN’S EPEE

1. Romania – Maroiu (3), Gherman (4), Branza (6) + Dinu (30) as reserve
2. Russia – Sivkova (22), Shutova (25), Kolobova (37) + Logunova (48) as reserve
3. China – Sun (1), Li (2), Luo (8) + Xu (16) as reserve
4. Italy – Fiamingo (7), Navarria (9), Del Carretto (19) + Moellhausen (38) as reserve
5. USA – Hurley C (24), Lawrence (29), Scanlan (41) + Hurley K (68) as reserve
6. Germany – Sozanska (5), Heidemann (17), Duplitzer (57) + Ndolo (80) as reserve
7. Ukraine – Shemyakina (11), Pantelyeyeva (58), Kryvytska (64) + Pochkalova (65) as reserve
8. Korea – Choi I (10), Shin (12), Jung (13) + Choi E (34) as reserve

MEN'S SABRE

1. Russia – Yakimenko (2), Reshetnikov (5), Kovalev (9) + Bykov (26) as reserve
2. Belarus – Lapkes (13), Buikevich (31), Pryemka (41) + Romanovitch (92) as reserve
3. Germany – Limbach (1), Wagner (16), Hartung (24) + Beisheim (28) as reserve
4. Romania – Dumitrescu (8), Dolniceanu (18), Zalomir (42) + Siriteanu (57) as reserve
5. China – Liu (22), Zhong (25), Wang (37) + Jiang (47) as reserve
6. Korea – Gu (3), Won (7), Kim (11) + Oh (32) as reserve
7. Italy – Montano (4), Occhiuzzi (14), Tarantino (15) + Samele (21) as reserve
8. USA – Homer (20), Williams (33), Morehouse (38) + Spear (35) as reserve

INDIVIDUAL QUALIFICATION

For the disciplines with a team event, qualification for the individual event is as follows: 24 fencers (27 in the case of men's and women's foil) from the teams, plus the seven highest ranked in the world on 31 March by zone (two each from Europe, Asia-Oceania and America, and one from Africa) from those countries without a team, with only one fencer from any one country; then a further five from the zone-qualifying events (two from Europe and one from each other zone), which were open only to countries with no fencers qualified above and with only one fencer from any one country. No country can qualify more than three fencers per weapon. Britain added one sabreur (James Honeybone).

Disciplines with only an individual event have 30 places allocated, of which 20 comprise the top 12 in the FIE world ranking and the next best eight by zone (two from each and only one fencer from any one country), with no country able to qualify more than two fencers through these two criteria. A further ten were added from the zone-qualifying events (Europe four, Asia-Oceania three, America two and Africa one), which were open only to countries with no fencers qualified above and with only one fencer from any one country. Britain added one epeeist (Corinna Lawrence) and two women sabreurs (Louise Bond-Williams and Sophie Williams).

Fencers expected to take part in the individual event are as follows, in world ranking order as of 2 July (T = from teams; Z = from zones; Q = from qualifier; H = from host nation):

MEN'S FOIL

1. CASSARA Andrea (ITA) – T
2. ASPROMONTE Valerio (ITA) – T
4. MA Jianfei (CHN) – T
5. IMBODEN Race (USA) – T
6. CHOI Byung (KOR) – Z
7. CHEREMISINOV Alexey (RUS) – T
8. ABOUELKASSEM Alaaeldin (EGY) – T
9. LEI Sheng (CHN) – T
10. SINTES Victor (FRA) – T
11. JOPPICH Peter (GER) – T
12. LE PECHOUX Erwan (FRA) – T

13. MASSIALAS Alexander (USA) – T
14. BALDINI Andrea (ITA) – T
15. KRUSE Richard (GBR) – T/Z
16. OTA Yuki (JPN) – T
17. BACHMANN Sebastian (GER) – T
18. KLEIBRINK Benjamin (GER) – T
20. GANEEV Renal (RUS) – T
22. AKHMATKHUZIN Artur (RUS) – T
24. MIYAKE Ryo (JPN) – T
25. LALONDE TURBIDE Etienne (CAN) – Z
26. HERTSYK Rostyslav (UKR) – Z
27. LEFORT Enzo (FRA) – T
28. DAVIS James (GBR) – T/H
29. CHIDA Kenta (JPN) – T
30. CHAMLEY-WATSON Miles (USA) – T
33. SCHLOSSER Roland (AUT) – Z
37. ZHU Jun (CHN) – T
39. AYAD Tarek (EGY) – T
49. GOMEZ Daniel (MEX) – Z
52. ALI Lahoussine (MAR) – Q
54. DARABAN Radu (ROU) – Q
56. ROSOWSKY Husayan (GBR) – T/H
58. SAMANDI Mohamed (TUN) – Z
61. CHOI Nicholas (HKG) – Z
70. JOVANOVIC Bojan (CRO) – Q
92. TOLDO Gilherme (BRA) – Q
103. SHAITO Zain (LIB) – Q
379. MOSTAFA Anas (EGY) – T

Top fencers missing from the above line up include world No. 3 Giorgio Avola of Italy, current European champion, and world No. 19 Gerek Meinhardt (USA), 2010 world bronze medallist, both of whom are likely to be their team reserves.

WOMEN'S FOIL

1. VEZZALI Valentina (ITA) – T
3. DI FRANCISCA Elisa (ITA) – T
2. NAM Hyun Hee (KOR) – T
4. ERRIGO Arianna (ITA) – T
5. KIEFER Lee (USA) – T
6. MAITREJEAN Corinne (FRA) – T
7. GUYART Astrid (FRA) – T
9. GRUCHALA Sylwia (POL) – T
10. BOUBAKRI Ines (TUN) – Z
11. DERIGLAZOVA Inna (RUS) – T
12. SHANAIEVA Aida (RUS) – T
13. JEON Hee Sook (KOR) – T
14. GAFURZIANOVA Kamilla – T
15. GOLOUBYTSKYI Carolin (GER) – Z
16. MOHAMED Aida (HUN) – Z
17. CHEN Jinyan (CHN) – Z
18. WOJTKOWIAK Malgorzata (POL) – T
19. PRESCOD Nzingha (USA) – T
21. SYNORADZKA Martyna (POL) – T
23. VAN ERVEN GARCIA Saskia (COL) – Z
24. JUNG Gil Ok (KOR) – T
25. SUGAWARA Chieko (JPN) – T
26. ROSS Nicole (USA) – T
30. THIBUS Ysora (FRA) – T
36. IKEHATA Kanae (JPN) – T

37. GABER Eman (EGY) – T
42. SHEPPARD Natalia (GBR) – T/Q
43. PETERSON Monica (CAN) – Z
45. EL GAMMAL Shaimaa (EGY) – T
48. EL GAMMAL Eman (EGY) – T
52. LELEYKO Olga (UKR) – Q
57. LIN Po Heung (HKG) – Z
59. KHELFAOUI Anissa (ALG) – Q
71. NISHIOKA Shiho (JPN) – T
75. FUENMAYOR CHOLES Johana (VEN) – Q
76. SHAITO Mona (LIB) – Q
100. TROIANO Sophie (GBR) – T/H
165. BENTLEY Anna (GBR) – T/H

Those missing include world No.8 Ilaria Salvatori of Italy, Russia former European champion Evgenyia Lamonova (world No.20) and world No.22 Doris Willette (USA), all likely to be their team reserves.

WOMEN'S EPEE

1. SUN Yujie (CHN) – T
2. LI Na (CHN) – T
3. MAROIU Anca (ROU) – T
4. GHERMAN Simona (ROU) – T
5. SOZANSKA Monika (GER) – T
6. BRANZA Ana (ROU) – T
7. FIAMINGO Rossella (ITA) – T
8. LUO Xiaojuan (CHN) – T
9. NAVARRIA Mara (ITA) – T
10. CHOI In Jeong (KOR) – T
11. SHEMYAKINA Yana (UKR) – T
12. SHIN A Lam (KOR) – T
13. JUNG Hyojung (KOR) – T
14. FLESSEL-COLOVIC Laura (FRA) – Q
15. PIEKARSKA Magdalena (POL) – Z
17. HEIDEMANN Britta (GER) – T
18. GEROUDET Tiffany (SUI) – Z
19. DEL CARRETTO Bianca (ITA) – T
22. SIVKOVA Anna (RUS) – T
24. HURLEY Courtney (USA) – T
25. SHUTOVA Lyubov (RUS) – T
26. SCHALM Sherraine (CAN) – Z
28. SZASZ Emese (HUN) – Q
29. LAWRENCE Maya (USA) – T
36. NAKANO Nozomi (JPN) – Q
33. BESBES Sarra (TUN) – Z
36. NAKANO Nozomi (JPN) – Q
37. KOLOBOVA Violetta – T
39. HASSANEIN Mona (EGY) – Q
41. SCANLAN Susie (USA) – T
43. LAWRENCE Corinna (GBR) – H
47. YEUNG Chui Ling (HKG) – Z
55. MARTINEZ Maria (VEN) – Q
56. DUPLITZER Imke (GER) – T
57. DUPLITZER Imke (GER) – T
58. PANTELYEYEVA Ksenyia (UKR) – T
64. KRYVYTSKA Olena (UKR) – T
66. BRAVO ARANGUIZ Cetarin (CHI) – Z
146. HSU Jo-Ting (TPE) – Z

Includes the world top 20, apart from the Chinese team reserve, XU Anqi (CHN), and Emma Samuelsson of Sweden.

MEN'S SABRE

1. LIMBACH Nicolas (GER) – T
2. YAKIMENKO Alexey (RUS) – T
3. GU Bon Gil (KOR) – T
4. MONTANO Aldo (ITA) – T
5. RESHETNIKOV Veniamin (RUS) – T
6. SZILAGYI Aron (HUN) – Z
7. WON Woo Young (KOR) – T
8. DUMITRESCU Rares (ROU) – T
9. KOVALEV Nikolay (RUS) – T
10. APITHY Bolade (FRA) – Z
11. KIM Junghwan (KOR) – T
13. LAPKES Dmitri (BLR) – T
14. OCCHIUZZI Diego – T
15. TARANTINO Luigi (ITA) – T
16. WAGNER Benedikt (GER) – T
18. DOLNICEANU Tiberiu (ROU) – T
19. AGRESTA Renzo (BRA) – Z
20. HOMER Daryl (USA) – T
22. LIU Xiao (CHN) – T
24. HARTUNG Max (GER) – T
25. ZHONG Man (CHN) – T
27. BEAUDRY Philippe (CAN) – Z
31. BUIKEVICH Aleksandr (BLR) – T
33. WILLIAMS James (USA) – T
36. BOYKO Dmytro (UKR) – Q
37. WANG Jingzhi (CHN) – T
38. MOREHOUSE Timothy (USA) – T
39. ZEID Mannad (EGY) – Q
41. PRYIEMKA Valery (BLR) – T
42. ZALOMIR Florin (ROU) – T
43. SKRODSKI Adam (POL) – Q
49. SAMANDI Hichem (TUN) – Z
64. LAM Hin Chung (HKG) – Z
71. JANSEN Hernan (VEN) – Q
93. HONEYBONE James (GBR) – H
112. ABEDINI SHORMASTI Mojtar (IRI) – Q
199. YU Peng Kean (MAS) – Z

Those missing include four top-25 fencers: world No. 12 Julien Pillet of France, Panamerican champion and world No.17 Joseph Polossifakis (CAN), and two Italians fighting it out to be their country's reserve, Luigi Samele and Giampiero Pastore of Italy, respectively world No.21 and 23.

Fencers in non-team events are as follows, in world ranking order as of 2 July (W = world top 12 at 31 March; Z = from zones; Q = from qualifier; H = from host nation):

MEN'S EPEE

1. NOVOSJOLOV Nikolai (EST) – W
2. KAUTER Fabian (SUI) – W
3. PIZZO Paolo (ITA) – W
4. ALIMZHANOV Elmir (KAZ) – W
5. HEINZER Max (SUI) – W
6. VERWIJLEN Bas (NED) – W
7. PARK Kyoung Doo (KOR) – W
9. IMRE Geza (HUN) – W
11. FERNANDEZ Silvio (VEN) – W
12. GRUMIER Gauthier (FRA) – W
13. LIMARDO Ruben (VEN) – Z

14. THOMPSON Soren (USA) – W
15. JUNG Jin Sun (KOR) – W
16. ZAWROTNIAK Radoslaw (POL) – Q
18. LI Guojie (CHN) – Z
19. KARUCHENKO Dmitriy (UKR) – Q
20. KELSEY Weston (USA) – Z
21. BOREL Yannick (FRA) – Z
22. BOUZAIID Alexandre (SEN) – Z
24. SUKHOV Pavel (RUS) – Q
25. FAYEZ Ayman (EGY) – Z
26. FIEDLER Joerg (GER) – Z
28. ALEXANIN Dimitriy (KAZ) – W
47. PIASECKI Bartosz (NOR) – Q
55. KUDAYEV Ruslan (UZB) – Q
68. EL HAOUARI Abdelkarim (MAR) – Q
69. INOSTROZA BUDINICH Paris (CHI) – Q
78. SCHWANTES Athos (BRA) – Q
230. NGUYEN Tien Nhat (VIE) – Q
281. LEUNG Ka Ming (HKG) – Q

Among those missing are two top-10 Frenchmen, Jean-Michel Lucenay and Ulrich Robieri, world No.17 Bogdan Nikishin of the Ukraine and reigning Olympic champion Matteo Tagliariol of Italy.

WOMEN’S SABRE

1. ZAGUNIS Mariel (USA) – W
2. VELIKAIA Sofya (RUS) – W
3. KHARLAN Olga (UKR) – W
4. VOUGIOUKA Vassiliki (GRE) – W
5. KIM Ji Yeon (KOR) – W
6. VECCHI Irene (ITA) – W

7. ZHU Min (CHN) – W
8. BESBES Azza (TUN) – W
9. GAVRILOVA Yulyia (RUS) – W
10. WOZNIAK Dagmara (USA) – W
11. CHEN Xiaodong (CHN) – W
12. MARZOCCA Gioia (ITA) – W
13. SOCHA Aleksandra (POL) – Z
17. MIKINA Sabina (AZE) – Q
18. PERRUS Leonore (FRA) – Z
21. LEE Ra Jin (KOR) – Z
23. BENITEZ Alejandra (VEN) – Q
25. NAKAYAMA Seira (JPN) – Z
27. SASSINE Sandra (CAN) – Z
29. BUJDOSO Alexandra (GER) – Q
39. PEREZ MAURICE Maria (ARG) – Z
42. BEN CHAABANE Amira (TUN) – Z
47. ZHIVITSA Yuliya (KAZ) – Q
66. MAHRAN Salma (EGY) – Z
69. PASCU Bianca (ROU) - Q
70. AU Sin Ying (HKG) – Q
71. WILLIAMS Sophie (GBR) – H
108. GONZALEZ Ursula (MEX) – Q
109. BOND-WILLIAMS Louise (GBR) – H
129. TSCHOMAKOVA Margarita (BUL) – Q
141. PERMATASARI Diah (INA) – Q
265. MOUTOUSSAMY Lea Melissa (ALG – aged 14, unranked until June this year) – Q

Five world top-20 fencers are missing: the Italian winner of the last World Cup, Ilaria Bianco, Marion Stoltz (FRA), Ekaterina Dyachenko (RUS), Ibtihaj Muhammad (USA) and Bogna Jozwiak (POL). ■

Malcolm Fare

**CAMDEN LPJS FOIL: 13/14
OCTOBER 2012**

Venue: Acland Burghley School Sports Centre, Churchill Road, London NW5 1UJ (opposite Tufnell Park underground station)

Events	Check-in closes	Events	Check-in closes
SATURDAY 13th		SUNDAY 14th	
U11 Boys	08.30	U9 Boys	08.30
U11 Girls	08.30	U9 Girls	08.30
U15 Boys	11.00	U13 Boys	11.30
U15 Girls	11.00	U13 Girls	11.30
U17 Girls	11.00	U17 Boys	11.30

Entry Fee: £18 (Late entries received after 1st October: £22 subject to acceptance)

Cheques payable to: Camden Fencing Club

Entries to: Patricia Aiyenuro, 18 Barnfield Upper Park Road, London NW3 2UU.

Tel: 020 7586 6883/07786064836. **Email:** nazarae@hotmail.com

Website: <http://www.camdenfencingclub.org.uk/>

Closing Date: 01.10.2012

Notes: Information, maps and accommodation can be found on the website. BFA and LPJS regulations apply to the competition.

ENTRY FORM

CAMDEN LPJS FOIL: 13/14.10.12

Name:

Address:

Tel:

Email:

Club:..... **BFA No:**.....

Date of Birth:..... **Entry Fee:**.....

Your unique identification code for the LPJS will consist of your initials, first name followed by surname, then your date of birth in the format ddmmyy and then your sex, either M or F. Please note you should ignore all middle names and if your surname is double barreled just use the first letter. For example, Louise Bond-Williams use letters LB. I am Alex Paul, my date of birth is 17th of June 1978 and I am male therefore my unique code is AP170678M. You should use your code in all correspondence regarding the LPJS.

Your unique code is:
I accept that the organisers cannot be held responsible for any accident, loss or damage sustained at the event.

Signed:..... **Date:**.....
(Parent/Guardian)

London 2012 Update

READINESS

The London 2012 team is in its final stages of preparation:

- The build phase that will produce South Arena 1 in ExCeL, where the fencing will take place, started at the end of May, with the lighting rigging going into the ceiling and the mark-out of the seating bowl and competition area.
- Detailed designs are in place for the competition area (field of play), training venue, front-of-house facilities, back-of-house areas, seating bowl and a range of offices.
- Temporary offices are being built above the fencing arena to accommodate the FIE President, General Secretary and Executive Committee, plus offices for the chief executive, technical delegates and staff from FIE headquarters.
- The Olympic Family lounge is in place, along with the appropriate arrangements for the Protocol team to host VIP visitors who are attending the fencing events.
- Precise processes have been agreed with the FIE to ensure that the schedule runs strictly to time to allow for the split-second requirements of live TV around the world. These processes include the call room, warm-up and athlete preparation. (Athletes have their wireless equipment fitted and re-tested before every fight, along with their weapons and wires.)
- Results, scoring and timing technology has been tested – including a wide range of new software produced specifically for Olympic competition.
- The new floor lights, which will be used for both scoring and presentation purposes around the five pistes, have been produced by Leon Paul.
- The twice daily show has been finalised – including performers, announcers, commentators, music, lighting, crowd entertainment and giant video screens.
- Athlete entry and medal ceremony arrangements are in place.
- The Spectator Zone, where there will be a fencing exhibition for ticket-holders prior to entering the seating bowl, has been designed and equipped through the joint efforts of the FIE, British Fencing and LOCOG.
- The media have been briefed, and it's hoped that some will have the opportunity to 'have a go' at the competition venue immediately prior to the start of the Olympic events.
- The TV camera positions in the arena and the seating bowl have been finalised and approved.
- Publications have been produced to provide detailed information on the fencing events for athletes, team leaders, officials and spectators.
- A vast range of operational teams and support services are in place, eg: venue management, technology, logistics, sports presentation, broadcast, press & photographers, news, transport, catering, cleaning, medical, anti-doping, accreditation, security and spectator services.

And last – but definitely not least – the people:

- The 77 technical officials are in place - the Directoire Technique, representatives from the Medical, Referees and SEMI commissions, referees, armourers and technicians. This group includes 36 officials from Great Britain.
- The 322 fencing volunteers are recruited, trained, uniformed, accredited and raring to go.
- The 24 Young Games-Makers have been identified from the junior and cadet squads – with the intention that their London 2012 experience will help them on their way to becoming the next generation of Olympians.
- The London 2012 fencing team is fully formed, with the 12 staff ready for anything!

LONDON 2012 FENCING TEAM

The fencing team has been built up over a period of 4 years. It started with my secondment in the summer of 2008 to the Beijing organising team. I worked in the Beijing Competition Management office at the fencing venue during the run-up to the Games and throughout the fencing events. After a further 18 months assisting LOCOG part-time on a voluntary basis, I started work full-time in January 2010. A year later the fencing team expanded to three, with the arrival of Caryl Oliver and Liz Charlton.

The nine Group Leaders arrived at various stages during the spring/summer of 2012. Generally the roles operate across both the Olympic and Paralympic Games, with the group split into two teams based on a typical Olympic/Paralympic structure – Technical Operations and Services. Games-time roles are well defined, but in the build-up to the Games it's very much a team effort and an approach of 'all hands on deck'. We all deal with whatever task or crisis is currently facing us.

The team and their Games-time roles are shown in the panel (right). Although not included there, as they move into different roles at Games-time, Peter Huggins and Hilary Arnold have also been actively involved during the preparation period and have contributed their expertise to the team effort.

In assembling the team, my aim was to bring in fencers for all roles, whether paid staff or Games-time volunteers, and I'm pleased to say that this has generally been achieved. In addition to the fencing team itself, I've had the opportunity to introduce fencers into other LOCOG teams that will work in the fencing arena. This includes a large group of volunteers working in the Technology team, such as video-referee camera operators, timing and scoring assistants and public scoreboard operators, most of whom work on the field of play itself. Although in theory Technology recruit their own volunteers, they agreed that I could allocate volunteers from within fencing. I was also pleased to be able to nominate specialists for the Sports Presentation team, such as the commentators Mark Nelson-Griffiths, James Thornton and James Williams. In addition, Malcolm Fare will be providing his expertise as the fencing information specialist in the news service.

Overall the team has a wealth of fencing experience, and a wide range of very different skill-sets that will enable everyone to make a specific contribution to a successful outcome. Most importantly, all have the desire and enthusiasm to be part of the Games. I expect that we'll encounter some problems – it would be a miracle if there were no blips whatsoever – but our LOCOG and volunteer teams give me confidence that it will be 'all right on the night'.

I hope all those involved – whether competing, officiating, working, volunteering or spectating – enjoy this once-in-a-lifetime experience. It's a great opportunity to work together for the future good of fencing – and nothing would please me more than to see a British fencer on the medals podium. On behalf of the London 2012 fencing team I wish the very best of luck to all in the GB team. ■

Hilary Philbin
Fencing Manager – London 2012

WHO'S WHO – AND THEIR GAMES-TIME ROLES



Britain's Forgotten Olympic Fencing HEROES

With London 2012 about to take place, it is worth reflecting on the contributions to the Olympic movement of two British fencers without whom the two previous London Games might never have taken place.

WILLIE GREFELL, LORD DESBOROUGH (1855-1945)

The first London Olympics were held in 1908, but without the organisational talents of William Henry Grenfell, Baron Desborough of Taplow Court, it is unlikely that they would have happened. Once described as "probably the best all-

round sportsman in the world", Willie Grenfell was a man of great natural authority and practical good sense. As a schoolboy at Harrow, he ran the mile in a time that was not beaten for 60 years. At Oxford he was president of both the athletic and rowing clubs. During the holidays, he climbed the Alps, reaching the Matterhorn peak three times by different routes.

After graduation, he worked as a war correspondent in the Sudan and once, armed only with an umbrella, outran a horde of tribal warriors. In 1884 he swam across the pool at the base of Niagara Falls, repeating the feat four years later in a snowstorm to prove to a sceptic that it was possible. On the Thames he was punting champion for three successive years and once sailed from Oxford to Putney, 105 miles, in 22 hours.

A popular mayor of Maidenhead for two years, Grenfell was keenly interested in the revival of the Olympic Games and when the British Olympic Association was founded in 1905, he was elected chairman. Shortly afterwards he was elevated to the peerage for services to sport and local government. The following year, at the age of 50, Lord Desborough was a member of the English epee team that went to Athens to compete in the Interim Olympics – intended to be the first of a new series of Games to be held every four years in Athens halfway through the normal Olympiad, but held only once because of the cost.

He also attended as the official representative of the British government and led the British competitors in procession around the stadium. Rome had been awarded the 1908 Games, but a devastating eruption of Mount Vesuvius in the spring of 1906 destroyed much of Naples and meant that Italy had to devote all its resources to reconstruction. In Athens Britain was offered the privilege of hosting the Games and Lord Desborough, after talking to Edward VII who was in attendance, accepted on behalf of the country. He then fenced in the team event, beating all the Germans in the semi-final. The final saw England and France tied on victories, causing the match to be refought, when France narrowly won 9-6.

On his return from Athens, Lord Desborough began to create the network that would organise the 1908 Games. He persuaded the designer of the Franco-British exhibition, which was due to be held in 1907, to postpone it for a year and to build a stadium in which the track and



Lord Desborough



Willie Grenfell (right) poses with WHC Staveley at an Epee Club v Oxford match in 1904

field events, cycling, swimming, water polo, gymnastics, wrestling, archery and fencing would take place; it was capable of holding 150,000 spectators.

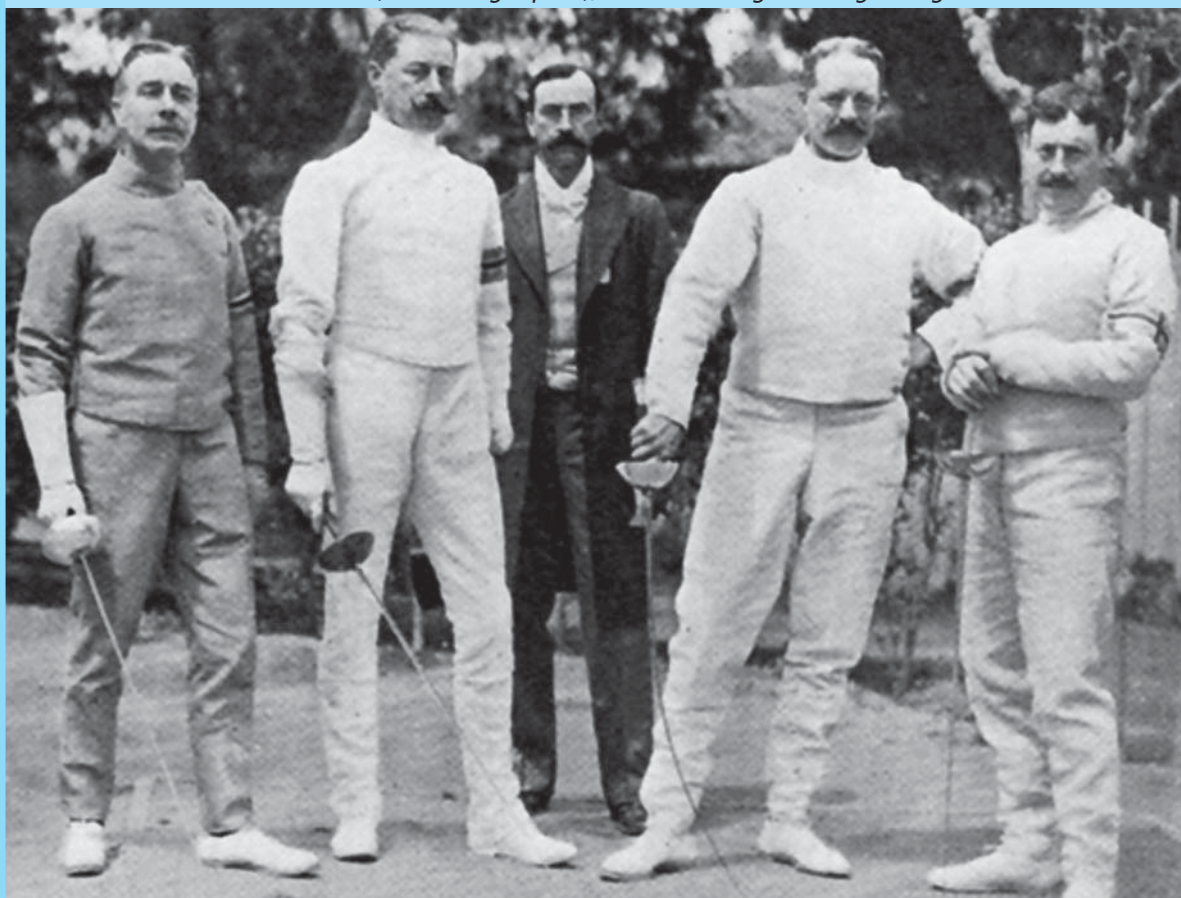
Rules had to be agreed for over 20 sports and participating nations. For the first time at the modern Olympics, competitors had to be proposed by their national governing body and participated as members of national teams. Despite bad weather, lack of publicity, disputes and the high drama of the marathon in which the Italian runner, Dorando Pietri, was helped over the line by

officials and then disqualified, the 1908 Games were a huge success and even made a profit. Through sheer force of personality and prestige, Lord Desborough turned the Olympic Games into the world's premier sporting event.

In succeeding years, he continued to dedicate himself to sport and public service, at one time serving on 115 committees simultaneously. President of the Amateur Fencing Association from 1911 to 1926, he continued fencing well into his 70s.

[With thanks to Angela Bolger of SGI-UK]

The 1906 English epee team silver medallists (from left): Charles Newton-Robinson, Sir Cosmo Duff Gordon, Theodore Cooke (non-fencing captain), Lord Desborough and Edgar Seligman



EMRYS LLOYD (1905-1987)

In 1948, when the Olympic Games came to London for the second time, another fencer made a crucial contribution to their success, both as a competitor and as an organiser. Emrys Lloyd, who carried the British team flag at the opening ceremony, not only set up the organising committee and personally handled all the legal and contractual work, he also reached the final of the individual foil, beating the silver medallist, D'Oriola of France in a magnificent bout, but at 43 he was tiring and was edged out of third place on hits by Maszlay of Hungary.

Lloyd won a bronze medal in the 1931 European/world foil championship, came fifth at the 1932 Olympics and missed winning the world title in 1933 by one hit, finishing third; he also came fourth in 1934. He was British foil champion a record seven times between 1928, when he was selected for the Amsterdam Olympics but declined because it clashed with his law exams, and 1938.

After distinguished war service, for which he was awarded an OBE, Lloyd re-joined his law firm, Farrer & Co, and became a partner. He was one of a small group of BOA council members, who met in December 1945 to consider whether London should stage the Olympics in 1948. Lord Burghley, later the Marquess of Exeter, was the BOA's charismatic chairman. Lloyd had become friends with him at Cambridge in the late 1920s and by 1945 Burghley had come to rely on him as a trusted adviser.



Emrys Lloyd in 1933 when he missed the European/world title by one hit



Emrys Lloyd (left) in action at the 1948 Olympic Games

With the offer of Wembley stadium as the venue, Lloyd helped the BOA reach its decision to go to the IOC in the spring of 1946 and accept responsibility to hold the Games in London. He then took the initiative in structuring and forming the organising committee, insisting on incorporation as a company limited by guarantee. He made no charge for any of his legal work. The most important contract was with Wembley Stadium where Lloyd struck up an excellent working relationship with Sir Arthur Elvin, Wembley's managing director. They negotiated and concluded the key Wembley Agreement which underpinned the Games and made them possible.

Emrys Lloyd's legacy on incorporating sports bodies was far reaching and at the time ground breaking. At the 1949 FIE Congress, he was awarded the Chevalier Feyerick trophy of sportsmanship "for providing new evidence of his fair play, of his sporting and gentlemanly fighting spirit, to which he remained faithful during his long and brilliant career as a fencer."

And in 1978 the IOC awarded him the Silver Olympic Order for his lifetime contribution to the Olympic movement. He lived to see the day when the IOC in 1981 opened the way to professionals, ruling that there was no longer any need to be (or pretend to be) an amateur. ■

[With thanks to Charles Woodhouse of Farrer & Co]

Malcolm Fare



Emrys Lloyd, AFA President 1972-3

SHROPSHIRE OPEN: 22/23.09.2012

Venue: Wrekin Sports Hall, Wrekin College, Sutherland Road, Wellington, Telford, Shropshire TF1 3BH

Insulated pistes and tower lights throughout

	Check in closes	Check in closes
Sat 22nd Sept		
	Men's Foil 09.00	Women's Foil 10.00
	Women's Sabre 11.30	Men's Sabre 13.30
Sun 23rd Sept		
	Men's Epee 09.00	Women's Epee 10.00

Entry Fee: £18, late entry additional £10 (£28 for two weapons).

Payable to: Shropshire County Fencing Union

No entry until fee received

Entries to: P James, 17 Holt Coppice, Bratton, Telford TF5 0DB

Closing Date: 17.09.2012 (late entry at organisers' discretion).

Tel: 07961 437327 between 16.00 and 20.00hrs only. Mobile on the day of competition only 07551 538045.

Note: <http://www.multimap.com/> for map
<http://www.ironbridge.ws/> for accommodation list



Refreshments available

Equipment stand

ENTRY FORM

Shropshire Open: 22/23.09.2012

Event(s):

Entry fee: Club:

Name:

Address:

.....

.....

DoB:

Tel: BFA/FIE No.

Email:

I understand that photographs may be taken for promotional purposes. I will comply with British Fencing's policy on photography and videoing.

I accept that the organisers cannot be held responsible for any accident, loss or damage sustained at the tournament.

Signed: Date:

(Parent/Guardian if under 18)

Does Caffeine Help Fencing Performance?



Sports drinks are often ingested by sports people as a way to prevent dehydration and also to provide the body with fuel for exercise. It is common to drink sports drinks containing carbohydrate and electrolytes, such as Lucozade Sport. In a sport like fencing, which has a high thermoregulatory demand and thus high sweat rates, replenishing fluids is important to be able to maintain performance throughout a competition. When we sweat we lose crucial electrolytes (body minerals and salts), which can be replaced though drinking sports drinks. Electrolytes also assist with retention of water and therefore help to prevent the onset of dehydration. Carbohydrate helps provide fuel for the body and mind. However, in fencing this is not so important, as we have sufficient muscle glycogen to provide fuel to supply our muscles throughout the duration of competition. Recent research has now shown that swilling a carbohydrate drink around in the mouth and spitting it out improves high intensity exercise performance. Therefore, it is thought that there are carbohydrate receptors in the mouth that are stimulated and improve motivation and thus performance. With this in mind and the fact that carbohydrate has been shown to maintain skill in sports such as squash and badminton when players become fatigued, carbohydrate drinks may have a beneficial effect on fencing performance.

Recently, some sports drinks have had caffeine added to them. Caffeine was removed from the world anti-doping association (WADA) banned list in 2004, but remains on the monitoring list to detect patterns of misuse in sport. Consequently, interest in the beneficial effects of caffeine on sporting performance has increased. Caffeine has generally not been added to sports drinks because of its possible diuretic effect, which could potentially have negative thermoregulatory (temperature control) effects in a sport like fencing. However, contrary to popular beliefs, caffeine has now been shown not to result in water-electrolyte imbalances or hyperthermia. Therefore, adding caffeine to a sports drink could improve fencing performance, even more so by reducing fatigue and maintaining skill. With this in mind, my colleagues Drs Andrew Greenhalgh and Kim Gregory and I set out to investigate whether caffeine had any beneficial effect on fencing skill, cognitive function and perceived fatigue following a simulated fencing protocol.

Eleven epee fencers took part in the research. Each fencer completed two trials which assessed hitting accuracy and

reaction times before and after a fatiguing protocol designed to simulate the demands of a fencing competition. The hitting accuracy involved 30 lunges to hit a target. A 500ml placebo (sugar-free orange squash) or a caffeine supplemented drink (3mg of caffeine per kg of body weight) was administered after the initial reaction and hitting accuracy tests. The fatiguing protocol involved simulating six fights with 6-minute rests between each. Fencers rated their perceived exertion for their sword arm, their legs and their overall exertion using a scale of 6-20 (known as the Borg Scale). The results showed that caffeine had a tendency to reduce the number of misses on the lunge test following fatiguing exercise. This finding could be important during competition, suggesting that as you become fatigued accuracy decreases and having a caffeinated drink could potentially reduce this reduction in skill. Furthermore, caffeine significantly reduced the overall exertion reported by the fencers, suggesting that they felt less tired. This factor alone may have been why they had a reduction in the number of misses on the lunge test. The caffeine had no effect on the reaction time test; however, this was not a fencing specific test. In future, a fencing specific reaction time test should be used with this kind of research and then maybe a more significant result could be found.

In conclusion, caffeine had a tendency to improve the hitting accuracy of the fencers following fatiguing exercise. This improvement in skill was likely to be a result of reduced perception of fatigue by the fencers with the caffeine. In a competition this could have significant outcomes on performance and could be the difference between winning and losing a fight. However, before you rush out and buy your caffeine drinks for fencing there are points to consider. Too much caffeine can be detrimental to performance due to the fact it can cause tremors and heart palpitations. A sports drink such as Lucozade sport with caffeine will be sufficient. In addition, if you are not a regular caffeine drinker, caffeine may have a more pronounced effect. Either way, if you decide to include caffeine in your sports drinks try it out in training before you drink it in competition. Also, fencers under 18 are advised not to include caffeine in their drinks as the negative effects can be exaggerated. Finally, we would like to thank the fencers who participated in this research. ■

Dr Lindsay Bottoms

BEDFORD FENCING CLUB

BEDFORD OPEN EPEE
MEN'S and WOMEN'S Competitions
Date: Sunday 14th October 2012

Venue: Bedford International Athletic Stadium, Barkers Lane, Bedford MK41 9SA
Tel 01234 351115 Mobile on the day **07776 196917**

Minimum age for entries 13 years.

Latest report time: **Men** 9.45 am

Women 10.45 am

Entry Fee: £20 **Late Entries:** £25 **Entries on the day at organisers' discretion:** £30

Payable to: Bedford Fencing Club.

Numbers for each competition will be limited to **126** and names entered strictly in order of receipt of entries.

Entries to: John Shearn, 1 Town Farm Court, Westfield Road, Oakley, Bedford MK43 7SW

Tel: 01234 822319. e-mail: jushearn@dsl.pipex.com

Alternatively via Leon Paul on-line shop at www.leonpaul.com

Closing date: 09 October 2012

Refreshments and hot food available

Note: Please send SAE for map and directions. The competition will be run according to BFA Rules for Competitions, although the organisers reserve the right to alter these to ensure smooth running of the competition. BFA membership is required at the date of the competition and will be checked.

ENTRY FORM
Bedford Open Epee: 14.10.12

Name:.....

Address:.....

.....

Tel:.....

email:.....

Event: Men's Epee/Women's Epee (please circle)

Club:.....

Entry Fee:.....

BFA No:..... **FIE No:**.....

I accept that the organisers cannot be held responsible for any accident, loss or damage sustained at the tournament.

Signed:.....**Date:**.....

(parent or guardian if U18)

Ref BFC501

Coach Egor's Problem Page

John Peterson writes from Barnstaple:

Dear Coach Egor, I am a member of British Fencing and have for a long time been concerned about the finances of our sport. I see the Olympic Games as a great opportunity to promote fencing, but I am worried that the cost could be too high. I know from your best-selling book, *Coach Egor's Guide to Fencing for Beginners*, that you have made a successful career in fencing. Is it possible to make a profit from the Olympics which could be invested in the future of our sport? Can you give British Fencing any examples of how to make money from fencing?

Coach Egor replies:

Of course I can. There are some at British Fencing with a knowledge of fencing and some with a knowledge of business, but few with both. British Fencing need to employ an inspirational consultant to harness the latent expertise already available to them. They should contact Coach Egor's Inspirational Fencing & Business Consultancy Ltd, where a consultant will soon show them how to take money from fencing.

Richard Helmsley (from an iphone) asks:

Dear Coach Egor, I have recently moved into a new house. In the loft I found a box full of fencing paraphernalia – old swords, helmets, medals, white jackets and trousers. An old friend, who used to fence, said that they all dated from the 1970s. I asked if the medals (details enclosed) might be worth something and he said that I should "make a call". So, what do you think?

Coach Egor replies:

I think you must have misheard.

Jane Harris writes from Gloucester:

I started going to my local fencing club with several other beginners last year. We have all improved, but I am having a lot of problems with the footwork. Basically, all the movements I make feel clumpy and I seem to lack the natural elegance of the other ladies. Do you have any exercises or other solutions to offer?

Coach Egor replies:

Before embarking on any remedial programme, I suggest

that you change your footwear. Your heels should be as low as possible. Squash shoes are ideal. If this does not improve your movements please write again.

J.P. Stanley writes from the City of London:

Sir, I am the chairman of a large British energy company. I am writing to several sports representatives to announce that the company would like to celebrate this Olympic year by donating the sum of one million pounds to develop young peoples' participation in sport. We wish the company name to be associated with a success story and will therefore be donating the whole one million pounds to a single sport. We will decide which sport to support taking into consideration:

- 1) The sport's detailed planning for future success and youth development.
- 2) Detailed spending plans for the one million pounds and their relation to 1).

Coach Egor replies:

Fencing is the obvious sport for you to support.

- 1) Years of internal debate have resulted in our 3B plan – Black, Better, Blue. We would like to keep our finances in the Black, make fencing Better and win some Blue ribbon events. I doubt that you will find any other sport with such detailed planning.
- 2) To encourage young people to join our fencing family we would spend the one million pounds as follows: Approximately £700,000 on new offices, £200,000 on a computerised administrative system, £100,000 on a consultancy to advise on future developments and £50,000 on a survey of the full membership of British Fencing to decide how to spend the remaining money. I look forward to your reply to this world beating response.

"Old Timer" writes from Woking:

Coach Egor, I am a veteran fencer and compete in several veterans' events every year. This has always been a pleasure. Until recently. Veterans' events are now a nightmare. The editor of the veterans' newsletter stalks the pistes taking embarrassing photographs. These are then published in the newsletter and other veterans write even more

embarrassing comments. I am frightened of my name being ridiculed. What can you suggest?

Coach Egor replies:

Use a false name. I do.

Two related questions, the first from Harry Simmons at the County Fencing Club:

Dear Coach Egor, At the County Fencing Club we have always been concerned about the possibility of younger members being tempted to take drugs. Following the recent European ruling regarding the banning of athletes found guilty of taking drugs, what advice would you recommend we give to our younger fencers?

Coach Egor replies:

Warn them that if they win a major international competition and are found guilty of drug taking they could be banned from the sport for life, or for a period of three weeks whichever is the shorter.

And secondly, James Johnson from Glasgow writes:

Coach Egor, Are you aware of any British fencers taking performance enhancing drugs at international events in the past?

Coach Egor replies:

If any British fencers have paid for performance enhancing drugs I hope that they have been fully refunded.

Jenny Peters from Leeds asks:

Dear Coach Egor, I am eagerly looking forward to the Olympic Games. I am not a fencer but want to invest in souvenirs of all the events with a view to seeing prices rise and making a little profit in a few years' time. I am particularly interested in limited edition souvenirs or other memorabilia with a rarity value. What fencing related items would you suggest I should buy?

Coach Egor replies:

Photocopies or, if possible, originals of any Olympic fencing-related articles in the press.

Lastly, an urgent reply from Coach Egor to (name withheld) of Gwent.

The action you describe is not prohibited in the rules but is usually discouraged at major competitions and should certainly never be attempted in the changing room.

Finally, Coach Egor would like to wish all the members of the British Olympic Fencing Team the best of luck. "Fortune favours those who follow in their coach's footsteps." ■

<h2 style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">42nd WELSH OPEN: 10/11.11.12</h2> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">The Welsh Institute of Sport, Cathedral Road, Cardiff. CF11 9SW</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Events</th> <th style="text-align: left;">10th November</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Latest Report Time</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>Men's Foil</td> <td>08.45</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Women's Epee</td> <td>10.45</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Women's Sabre</td> <td>12.30</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>11th November</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Men's Epee</td> <td>08.45</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Women's Foil</td> <td>10.45</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Men's Sabre</td> <td>12.30</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>See online for Welsh Open Novice Youth details</p> <p>Entry Fee: £22 per weapon, £35 for two weapons Late entries £32 per weapon if space available</p> <p>Cheques payable to: Welsh Fencing</p> <p>Postal Entries: Welsh Open Entries, c/o 43 Heol Miskin, Pontyclun, RCT, CF72 9AJ</p> <p>Online Entries: link from www.welshfencing.org</p> <p>Closing Date: 27.10.12. Late entries accepted at organisers' discretion</p> <p>Current BFA membership or equivalent will be checked at sign in. Armoury for personal weapons not guaranteed. Sports Centre accommodation: 029 2030 0500.</p>	Events	10th November	Latest Report Time		Men's Foil	08.45		Women's Epee	10.45		Women's Sabre	12.30		11th November			Men's Epee	08.45		Women's Foil	10.45		Men's Sabre	12.30	<h2 style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">ENTRY FORM</h2> <h3 style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">42nd WELSH OPEN: 10/11.11.12</h3> <p>Weapon(s):</p> <p>Name:</p> <p>Address:</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Email:</p> <p>Club:</p> <p>Entry fee (Non-refundable):</p> <p>Licence Number:</p> <p>Please state if Cadet/Veteran:</p> <p>I accept that the organisers cannot be held responsible for any accident, loss or damage sustained at the tournament.</p> <p>Signed:</p> <p>(Parent/Guardian if under 18)</p> <p>Date:</p>
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Obituaries

JAMES CHAMBERS (1941- 2012)

James Chambers, who has died at the age of 71 after losing a valiant battle with cancer, was a formidable figure on and off the piste, who relished sharing his vast knowledge and experiences in the fields of fencing, history (especially military history), opera, ballet and the classics; his audience was never disappointed and invariably enthralled. My earliest memory of James was of seeing a tall distinguished-looking chap coming from the other end of the piste wielding his epee with a very distinctive style of an up-and-down motion that scared the living daylights out of me. Later in subsequent bouts with James which were a daunting prospect as he was invariably the victor, he had a unique mode of attack borrowed from foil in which he would perform a coupé lunge drawing an ill-judged parry and then reprising with a successful repetition of the attack executed with punishing alacrity.

Born into a legal family in Northern Ireland in 1941, James was educated at Harrow and Oxford where he read law at Christ Church, but never practiced the profession. In 1967, he joined the Lansdowne Club in London's Mayfair and was a pupil of the late Professor Alfred Parkins, who had coached two home-grown world champions, Allan Jay and Bill Hoskyns. Subsequently, James became the lynchpin (and then captain) of the Lansdowne Fencing Club where everyone was always made to feel welcome.

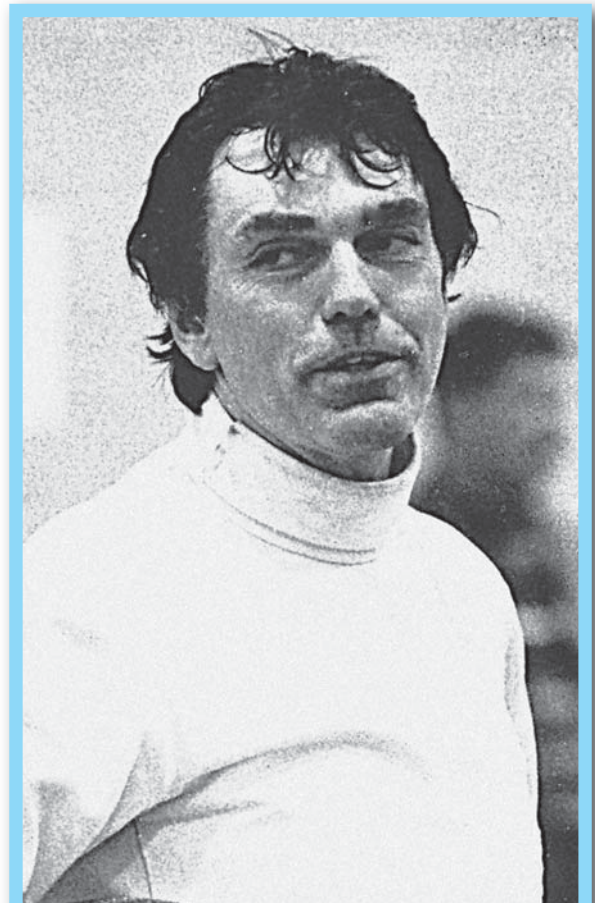
He served as captain of the British epee squad and on both the British Olympic Committee and FIE Publicity Commission. James was a great supporter of Northern Ireland Fencing. He regularly took part in competitions there and for many years represented Northern Ireland at international level. During this period, which spanned the 1970s and 1980s, James regularly ranked in the top 20 epeeists in the country. He was also a member of an eminent group of fencers, the Epee Club, where he served as Secretary for eight years and Vice-President for an additional 14 years.

From 1994 to 1999, James was President of what was then the Amateur Fencing Association and oversaw a modernisation process in which he undertook a series of

sweeping changes in the organisation that included a name-change to what it is today, the British Fencing Association.

Later in 2008, he returned to his old school, Harrow, as a fencing coach and masterminded their tremendous success at the Public Schools Championships only last year in 2011. In addition, he held fencing beginner courses at the Lansdowne and many club members today cut their teeth in foil and epee in his classes, becoming firm friends in the process.

Off the piste, he was a natural storyteller who would captivate an audience of fellow fencers relaxing in the informal basement atmosphere of the Aqua Bar at the Lansdowne after their *conversations de fer* in the salle with a glass of good ordinary claret – a favourite tippie – within easy reach. Elsewhere, he lectured with great success and my wife and I were fortunate to attend a fascinating address of his last year at the English Speaking Union in which he spoke eloquently and entertainingly on Princess Charlotte and Prince Leopold.

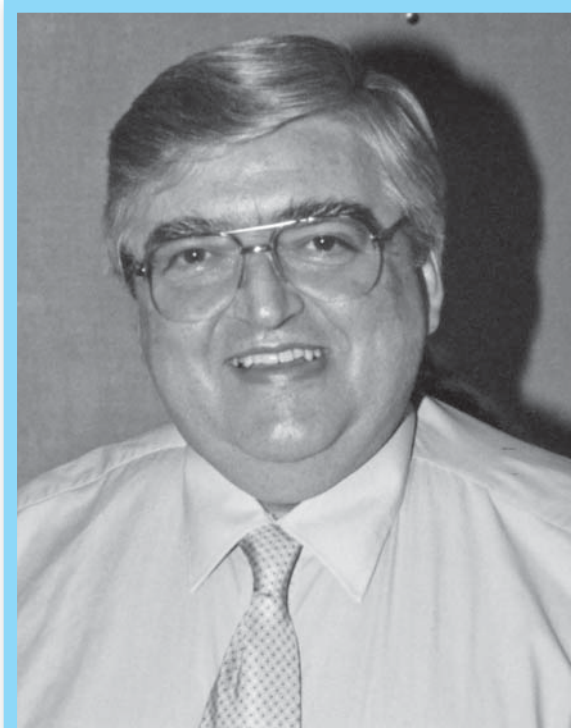


James Chambers (photo: Graham Morrison)

James was a revered author with a series of books to his name: *The Devil's Horsemen*, *Genghis Khan*, *Palmerston – The People's Darling* and *Charlotte and Leopold*, just to name a few of his publications. He also worked in the media as a fencing commentator for EuroSport and TransWorld Sport, while also contributing to programmes on fencing and swordplay for the BBC.

James' extensive reservoir of knowledge was always imparted with aplomb and good humour in which he engendered enlivening conversation as the accepted currency of exchange from those close to him with anecdotes, quotations and *bons mots* tossed back and forth like enchanted shuttlecocks. Fellow fencers will no doubt recall a number of memorable occasions where Alexander the Great, Genghis Khan, Napoleon, Wellington, Palmerston, Queen Victoria and other luminaries from the pages of history along with contemporary figures and events of note were discussed with that characteristic accent of his with its lilting baritone quality revealing a deeply held Ulster pedigree. The room always lit up when James entered and his gracious vibrant presence energised all those around him. He will be sorely missed. James is survived by his wife, Josephine.

Nicholas Mackey



John Ramsay (photo: Graham Morrison)

JOHN RAMSAY (1941-2012)

John Ramsay, who has died at the age of 71, started fencing in France and took up coaching when he became a housemaster at Woolverston Hall School in Suffolk. Under his supervision a great number of the pupils got to experience fencing. Together with Bob Bales, he would take pupils to competitions both at home, such as the BYCs, and abroad usually France. From 1969 to 1977 he was Chairman of the Schools Fencing Union.

When his school closed, John found a home at Colchester and District Fencing Club (CADS) and in 1988 he was elected Chairman, a post he retained until the end of 1999. In this capacity, I saw John in his element – administration. His knowledge of committee protocol and procedure was astounding. The club rapidly developed and improved under his direction, as he rewrote the constitution and set club policy.

Many will have come into contact with John at the Essex Open, which also received the Ramsay touch. He supervised the running in those pre-computer days and, when direct elimination came into the frame (with repechage), he could be seen drawing up the tableau and then explaining to competitors how it was they now had to compete against a particular opponent. When the computer age arrived, we all came to realise that John was at home with the new technology. He was one of the first at the club to have a PC and immediately used it for the Essex Open.

He was also an accomplished referee at all levels and refereed at the 1996 Paralympic Games. I remember working with him at the local BYC qualifier and seeing him shoot off to referee a round only to return to handle the paperwork for the next round with seemingly limitless amounts of energy. He was instrumental in establishing the women's epee A-grade (Ipswich Cup) and built a team to take on what could have been an administrative nightmare.

John seemed to be at home at any level of meeting and, if in the Chair, could be diplomatic and pragmatic should the need arise. He became heavily involved in the Eastern Region Committee where he served as Chair, Secretary and Treasurer – sometimes on more than one occasion – holding the post of Chairman until 2005 when he became Treasurer. Following the formation of England Fencing in 2004, he was elected its first President and was re-elected for a second term before having to stand down because of ill health. While President, he drafted a four-year plan, the constitution/articles and the working practises of the organisation.

John enjoyed his food and meetings would often conclude with the question: "Who's going to the Chinese?" On arrival at the restaurant, John would be met like a long lost family member rather than a customer. As we enjoyed the conversation and our meal, an almost limitless supply of dishes and courses appeared. On another occasion, I received a phone call from John suggesting a barbeque that afternoon. We all dutifully raided our fridges, freezers and drink supplies and descended on Holton St Mary to be met by our most congenial host and what turned out to be a very long, pleasant and enjoyable afternoon and evening. Gatherings such as these will always be a fond memory.

At CADS' 25th celebration in 2000, John received a special award to mark his valued commitment to the club and in 2003 the club made him a Life Member. That same year British Fencing honoured him with their silver medal (he had received the bronze medal in 1991). He became a Vice President of British Fencing in 2009.

John was a BFA Board member for many years, chairing the Youth Committee and the Calendar and Competitions committee, as well as organising the British Youth Championships and FIE events; he was also on the Technical Committee of the Commonwealth Fencing Championships. He always made our club aware of any grants that were available, for example, the Millennium Lottery Awards (later called Awards for All) from which the club gained approximately £3500 towards epee development.

I shall miss John greatly; not seeing his face at the Essex (usually in the DT) or at a club social or regional meeting is going to be difficult. I found him to be generous and caring with a deep knowledge. Our heartfelt sympathies go out to his family and friends; the sport has lost a truly great volunteer.

Lyndon Taylor, Chairman, CADS



Roy Goodall

ROY GOODALL (1928-2012)

Professor Roy Goodall, British Academy of Fencing (BAF), has died at the age of 83. He started fencing with a Mr Sandy, an ex-Boer War cavalry officer, in Peterborough in 1942. His training as a fencer continued under BAF professors Teague, Bertrand, Delzi, Behmber, Ridley, Boston and Pat Pearson.

Roy was invited to join the Academy in 1963 and it wasn't long before his journalistic skills were put to good use, founding as he did in 1966 *The Fencer* – the very first BAF journal for coaches and fencers. Roy would continue to edit this journal for many years, overseeing its incarnations into *The Fencing Master*, *Newsletter* and now *Academy News*.

In 1969 Roy opened the doors to Salle Goodall, where he continued to coach fencers and keep his own hand and eye in as a fencer. It wasn't long before his skills as a competitor were recognised by his peers and in 1974 he represented Great Britain in the Fencing Masters world championships in Germany.

In the 1970s Salle Goodall became one of the pre-eminent foil clubs in the South of England and attracted such outstanding fencers as Pierre and Laurent Harper. Under Roy's training, Pierre became 1977 Commonwealth foil champion, national foil champion and winner of the Coronation Cup. Soon other British champions and Olympic fencers began training with Roy at Salle Goodall.

The salle's success continued well into the 1980s; in 1985 the club won the British foil team championship and in 1986 came 5th in the Coupe d'Europe.

While Salle Goodall continued to produce champions, Roy dedicated his spare time to supporting the Academy and committee in whatever capacity he could. As well as editing the BAF journal, in 1974 he became BAF Secretary and later chaired the sub-committee investigating areas for development. He wrote and presented *Silver Swords*, the BAF's 25th anniversary show and followed up with *Golden Swords* at the Globe theatre and *Diamond Swords* at Warwick Castle – being awarded two Outstanding Achievement awards in the process.

He was the BAF representative to the then AFA committee, where he was instrumental in setting up the AFA/BAF Coaching Committee. In 1999 he was elected Vice-President of the Academy. The esteem in which the Academy held Roy was born out in 1988 when he was the recipient of its highest honour – the Gauthier Trophy.

But Roy had many other strings to his bow. In 1969 he, along with Henry Marshall, Derek Ware, BH Barry and other erstwhile fight masters, founded the Society of British Fight Directors. This body still runs today as the British Academy of Dramatic Combat for which Roy was honoured with a Fellowship in 2009. He staged fights for films, such as Steven Spielberg's *The Young Sherlock Holmes* and Ken Russell's *The Rainbow*. Theatre fights included *Tales of Hoffman* and *Kiss Me Kate* at the English National Opera, as well as *Macbeth*, *Romeo & Juliet*, *King Lear*, *Cyrano de Bergerac* and *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*, to name but a few.

For 25 years he published his own arts magazine, *Words & Music*, which serves the south of England. He edited *The Medical Technologist* and was also active in his home community of Telscombe, being elected Mayor of Telscombe Town three times. Retirement was not a word in his vocabulary, and at the age of 80 he became a trustee of his local Age UK Day Centre and chair of the Kempton House Day Club.

Professor David Austin said, "I cannot recall a cross word spoken between us or any differences of opinion throughout our many years of discussions. Swords or pistols were never drawn. He was a gentle man, warm, friendly, affable and good humoured; easy to learn from; dedicated to whatever was the call of the day. He threw himself wholeheartedly into his chosen profession and lived his life to the fullest, unwilling to give way to ill health when he suffered some setbacks."

I personally owe Roy more than mere words can express. I met my wife, Katy, at Salle Goodall in 1988; Roy signed the witness document at our marriage service 15 years ago. What can I say about a man who trained me, guided my career into film and theatre and was an integral part of my life, except perhaps thank you. Thank you Roy for letting me and my family be part of your most wonderful life. You will always be with me as I pass on what you have taught me.

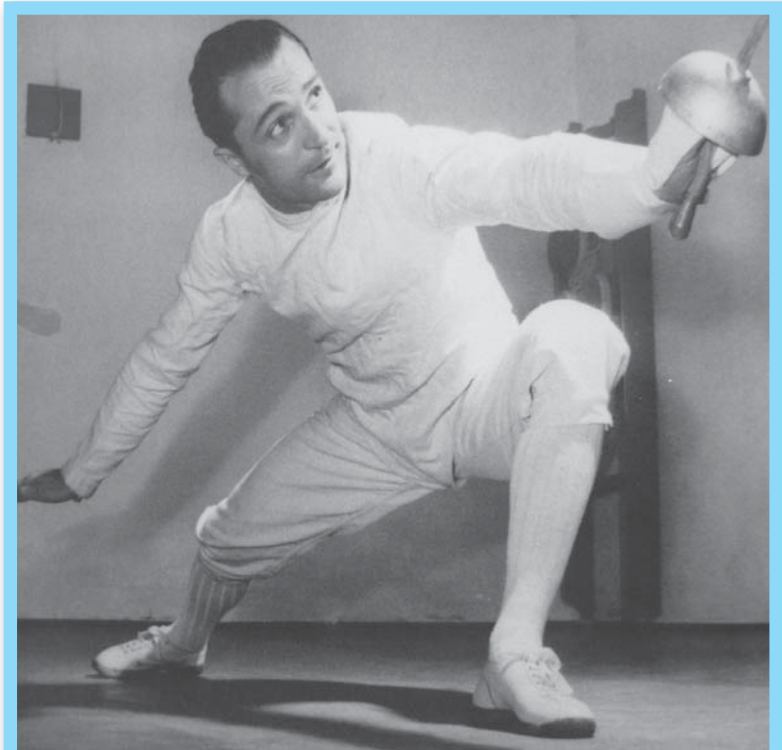
Roy is survived by his wife, Professor Angela Goodall, BAF, a daughter by a previous marriage and a grandson. A whole host of family and friends will always cherish his memory and the time spent in his company.

Andy Wilkinson
Courtesy of *Academy News*

EDOARDO MANGIAROTTI (1919-2012)

One of Italy's greatest fencers, Edoardo Mangiarotti, has died at the age of 93. He participated in five Olympics from 1936 and 1960 and established a record that is unlikely to be matched, winning 13 Olympic medals at epee and foil, six of them gold (one individual). He also won 26 world championships medals, 13 of them gold (two individual), even though he participated in only nine world championships. The eight years lost to the war would undoubtedly have yielded more medals in an astonishing career that spanned 25 years.

Edoardo was taught fencing by his father Giuseppe, one of the founders of the Milan fencing club, who had the foresight to make his naturally right-handed son fence left-handed. The unpredictability of his moves led to his



Edoardo Mangiarotti

most important victories. His strategy was to attack from the start and gain a point's advantage, which often became insurmountable for the remainder of the bout.

Berlin in 1936 was Mangiarotti's first Olympic Games, when he was in the winning epee team at the age of 17, becoming the youngest gold medallist of those Games. He reached his peak at the Helsinki Olympics of 1952, winning two gold (individual and team epee) and two silver (individual and team foil) medals. In the final epee bout he beat his brother Dario.

In the pages of *The Sword*, Feri Rentoul recalled Mangiarotti's habit of casting his eyes towards heaven in pain when a hit was given against him in foil, as if saying, "Forgive them, Lord, for they know not what they do". He would even do this in epee when the box registered a hit.

At the Rome Olympics of 1960, Mangiarotti, now a 41-year-old and the oldest member of his team, won a silver medal in the team foil and gold in the epee, when the Italians beat the British squad of Bill Hoskyns, Mike Howard, Allan Jay and John Pelling 9-5.

In 2003, the IOC awarded him a Platinum Wreath, with a document which stated that: "Edoardo Mangiarotti's total of 39 gold, silver & bronze medals in Olympic & World fencing championships not only earns him the distinction of being the greatest fencer in the sport's history, but also distinguishes him as the most decorated athlete in all Olympic sports in the history of the Olympics."

Malcolm Fare

CAROL WENGRAF (1938-2012)

Carol Wengraf has died suddenly fencing for Wales in the Celtic Challenge in Galicia, Spain. She had a heart attack on the piste. The Galician officials were extremely sympathetic and efficient. Her body was cremated there and her ashes brought home with the Welsh veterans team.

Carol had made it known that if she was taken ill or died at a fencing competition the event should continue and we honoured her wishes by holding the gala evening in her honour and continuing to fence on the second day. Our Galician hosts were fantastic and treated her death with great respect and empathy.

Carol was a superb fencer, sabre being her favourite weapon, but she was also skilled in both foil and epee. She was British veterans champion in her age group every year from 2001 to 2011. In 2007 she won three gold medals and a silver at the European veterans individual championships. In the world championships she won two bronze medals and was the current gold medal holder in sabre.

Carol was always a fighter, choosing a career as an ENT surgeon, which in her time was in a man's world, but she retired as a highly respected and renowned surgeon, who had proved her skills and knowledge.

Carol was a personal friend for many years; kind, gentle and a woman with a great sense of humour who did not suffer fools gladly and was a loved member of the WVFA.

She will be greatly missed and our thoughts go out to her family at this sad time.

Mike Norfolk
Chairman, Welsh Veterans Fencing



Carol's children add:

"We wish to express our most sincere gratitude for the way the Welsh veterans' team looked after Carol. They and the organisers of the Celtic Challenge in Santiago de Compostela treated her with the greatest of respect, dignity and reverence. They never left her side from the point of her collapse, through the attempts to resuscitate her until the emergency services arrived and through the coroner's services. The tributes the organisers paid to her have touched us greatly.

We were very touched by Nena (Carol's last opponent) who went on to win the women's foil in her name. Carol, who usually preferred sabre or epee, was actually enjoying fencing foil at the time. We always knew she would die fighting, but did not expect it to be in the literal sense, though we think she would have been happy with it.

We would also like to express our thanks for the many kind messages from the fencing community." ■

David, Helen and Patrick Wengraf

Hamlet Open Sabre: 1 September 2012

Junior selection event for 2012-13

Venue: Stratford-upon-Avon Leisure and Visitor Centre, Bridgefoot, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 6YY (on the main Gyrotory). Pay and Display for parking.

Check in closes: Men's sabre: 09:30
Women's sabre: 10:15

Entry Fee: £25 (£20 if received before 19 August)

Payable to: Shakespeare's Swords

Entries to: David Kirby, Westerleigh, North Littleton, EVESHAM, WR11 8QX

Closing Date: 19 Aug 2012

Age: You must be born in 1998 or earlier to fence in this event. (BF rule March 2012)

Licence: Fencers must be in possession of a national competition licence. There can be no refunds for fencers without a valid licence, who will have to be excluded.

Notes: The weapon entry limit is 133. Entry Lists etc at www.shakespeareasswords.org.uk
Allstar-Uhlmann UK equipment stand.

ENTRY FORM

Hamlet Open Sabre: 01.09.2012

Event: (Men's sabre/Women's sabre).....

Fencer's Name:..... **DoB:**.....

Address:

.....

..... **Post Code:**.....

Tel:..... **Club:**.....

Email:.....

National Licence No:..... **Issuing Country:**.....

I accept that the organisers cannot be held responsible for any accident, loss or damage sustained at the tournament.

Signed:..... **Date:**.....
(Parent/Guardian if under 18)

Two Centuries of Fencing at Westminster School

Fencing at Westminster goes back at least to 1766, when an advertisement declared that "with the consent and approbation of the Rev. Dr. Smith, Master of Westminster School, Mr. Angelo has the honour of acquainting the public that he has taken a room of Mr. Frith in Dean's Yard, to teach fencing twice a week, principally intended for the instruction of young noblemen and gentlemen educated at the said school". Assisting him was the popular, and "conspicuous fop", Afro-Caribbean Soubise.

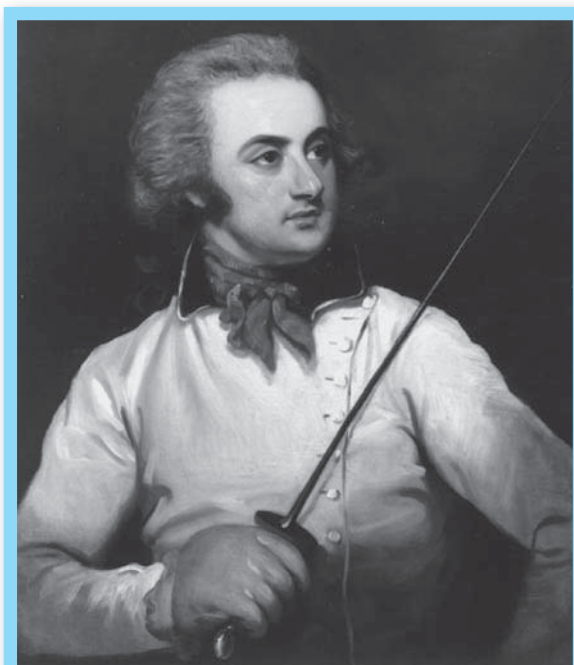
This was Domenico Angelo, the first in the line of a famous family of fencing masters. Born in Livorno in 1717 and trained in Paris, he came to London in 1754 and in 1758 was appointed riding and fencing master to the Prince of Wales (shortly to be George III) and his brother the Duke of York. In 1763 he published his fencing manual *L'École des Armes*, which remained the leading work for over 50 years. His obituary in *The Gentleman's Magazine* in 1802 claimed that: "In the arts of fencing and riding he was long at the head his profession and, by his skill in both, brought them into general adoption as necessary branches of fashionable education." Thus he may have initiated fencing in schools, where he taught fencing mainly to instill fitness and gentlemanly poise.

By 1781 Domenico had retired and been succeeded at Westminster by his son Harry, as indicated in an advertisement of that year in which the latter announced that he had "taken a large and convenient room, in the Tilt-yard Coffee-house, Horse-guards. There he trusted to obtain the support "of those noblemen and gentlemen he has already had the honour of instructing at Westminster School". He added that he "attends the gentlemen of Westminster School at Mr Pierce's, Dean's Yard on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 12 till two".

Harry Angelo had been born in 1756 and educated at Eton. He trained from 1772 to 1775 in Paris, and in his unreliable *Reminiscences* of 1828 he claimed to have taught over a period of 50 years at 40 schools, including the East India College and Harrow, as well as Westminster (though not at Eton). Among his pupils and friends were Byron, the Keans and the Kembles and

Rowlandson. In his *School of Fencing* of 1787, he stressed the importance of saluting (in five movements) before a bout and claimed that fencing "justly forms part of the education of persons of rank, giving them additional strength of body, proper confidence, grace, activity and address; enabling them, likewise, to pursue other exercise with greater facility". But he had a ruffian side too, displayed when he abetted Westminster cricketers (whom he evidently also coached) in smashing windows on returning from a match. All sports were still extra-curricular.

In 1817 Harry Angelo, at the age of 60, handed over to his second son, Harry Angelo II, born in 1780, who had already begun to act as assistant at the age of 14, but had been prevented from training in Paris by the French wars. He continued his family's high social standing, marrying a general's daughter and having the King of Hanover and the Duke of Cambridge among his pupils.



Harry Angelo

He died in 1852, aged 72, and his only son, Henry Charles, took over his St James's Street salle at about the age of 46. He had no doubt already taught there for many years, and likewise at Westminster, weathering the lean years when numbers at the school fell from 196 in 1819 to a mere 67 in 1841, largely due to the poor accommodation and brutal conditions, while the rival Eton was forging ahead, capturing most of the aristocracy which it had previously shared with Westminster. Described as "A rotund, pompous, affable, dressy little man", he taught at both schools and at Eton was remembered as snobbish but popular, with well-attended classes, though Sir Frederick Pollock, a lifelong fencer, called his teaching "perfunctory and old-fashioned".

At Westminster by the 1850s sports were no longer extra-curricular (and football was compulsory), but fencing was still an extra when, in 1862, a Prize Badge was donated by the Rev Thomas Weare, who as Under-Master had played a key role in improvements that contributed to a recovery in numbers. His wish was "that this stimulus may serve to promote the noble art of self-defence at Westminster and increase the hitherto meagre number of Mr Angelo's class". He specified that "The foils should never be used without guards to the face, and body – a somewhat serious accident having occurred, owing to the neglect of this precaution on the part of the donor of this badge when at Oxford". Masks had been introduced in France in the second half of the 18th century, but were evidently still not worn as a matter of course at Westminster in the mid-19th. By guards to the body Weare presumably meant leather jackets, which offered greater protection than the linen shirts previously worn.

The records of the Badge contest, and subsequent fencing activity, were entered in a ledger, but it gives no hint of what the Badge consisted of. At first the annual contest was on a direct elimination system, with fights apparently being for the best of seven hits. In 1863 H. C. Angelo didn't come for the Badge himself, but "sent down Messrs McTurk and Jackson", his assistants, and indeed he died only some three years later. William McTurk, had taken over as principal coach by 1867 and may have continued at Westminster till 1876 or so. Fencing was now regarded as providing healthy exercise rather than as an accomplishment of gentlemen. Oddly, Charles Newton-Robinson, a key figure who founded the Epee Club in 1900 and helped win the team epee silver medal in the Olympic Games of 1906, did not fence when he was at Westminster from 1866 to 1872.

Possibly because the sports provided for by the building of a gymnasium and fives court in 1864 drew away participants, by 1877 the Badge attracted only four entrants. From 1879 to 1886 it lapsed altogether, the trophy having disappeared. Fencing revived again in 1887 and the Badge contest renewed. However in a significant change, a military instructor replaced a civilian master.

Fencing was now promoted nationally as one means to military fitness, reflected in the inclusion of foil in the Royal Tournament from 1880 and, from 1890, alongside boxing

and gymnastics in the Public Schools Championships organised by the Army at Aldershot. Westminster first entered the latter in 1905 and in 1906 G L Hunter was runner-up under the knockout system; a success repeated in 1908 by E D Adrian, future Nobel Prize physiologist and Chancellor of Cambridge University. In 1907 comes the first reference to sabre at the school and in 1908 the first to a match (against London Scottish). In 1913 Roland Garvin, son of the famous editor of *The Observer*, was the winner at Aldershot. The Badge continued to be contested till 1915, being held on the pool system for the first time in 1911.

The Public Schools Championship, already faltering, ceased with the First World War (in which Garvin died). It was only revived in 1924, significantly by a joint committee of Oxford and Cambridge blues, not by the Army. Sabre was reintroduced in 1928 and epee added in 1933. Meanwhile, at Westminster the Badge competition was revived in 1921 and all three weapons were already fenced by 1924 when matches were re-introduced. The sport expanded in 1925: there were eight newcomers and a class of 12. On Thursdays Sgt MacIntosh of the Life Guards taught foil and on Tuesdays Sgt Harrison taught sabre, the boys fencing without instructors on Saturday. MacIntosh continued at least till 1930.

In 1929, the school was overall winner in the Public Schools for the first time, with F S Hoppe winner of the foil and Donald Paterson third. Paterson went on to fence for Britain in the 1935 European Championships (then the nearest thing to World Championships). In 1930 there were some 25 fencers, regarded as the maximum the gym would hold. The senior fencers gave lessons to the



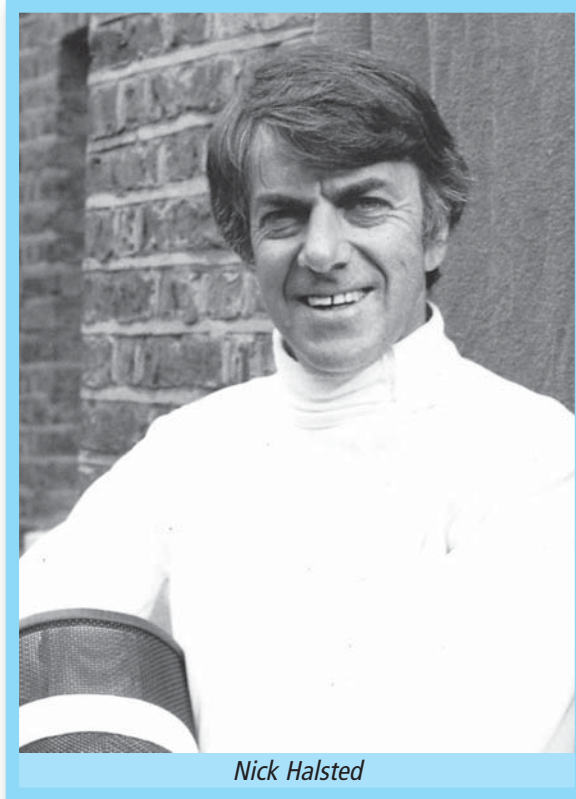
Pierre Turquet

juniors. By 1931 there was a full list of matches, for which a fixture card was printed. At Stowe, Madame Gravé, wife of the fencing master Felix Gravé, provided strawberries and cream. A match held in November on the roof of Coutts Bank in The Strand was described as "rather cold". Hampstead Fencing Academy included J B Priestley, who fenced "to reduce his weight".

In those days there was astonishingly full press coverage of fencing, pre-eminently from Marjorie Pollock-Smith in *The Daily Telegraph*. She reported even school championships, complete with salutary advice.

The leading fencer in the early 30s, and a rather brutal sabreur, was Pierre Turquet, later to fence in the Olympic Games of 1948, 1952 and 1956, and all the intervening World Championships. An eminent psychiatrist, he held many offices in the Fencing Association in the 1960s. Also notable was Erroll Christie, who won both the epee and sabre Junior Championship and after barraging for the Coronation Cup in 1948 was unlucky not to fence in the Olympics. He was largely responsible for keeping the Public Schools Championships going right through the war. The school had wins in 1940 and 1941, and some fencing continued despite evacuation to scattered buildings in Herefordshire.

After the war, tuition reverted to masters from leading London clubs (which the top fencers also attended): notably Morel till 1950, Harmer-Brown from 1953 and Imregi from 1957. By 1947 fencing was a full-time sport for 15 and part-time for some 25 others. Public Schools glory ensued, with eight first places and 16 finalists between 1948 and 1954. Pre-eminent was the cool, accurate Peter

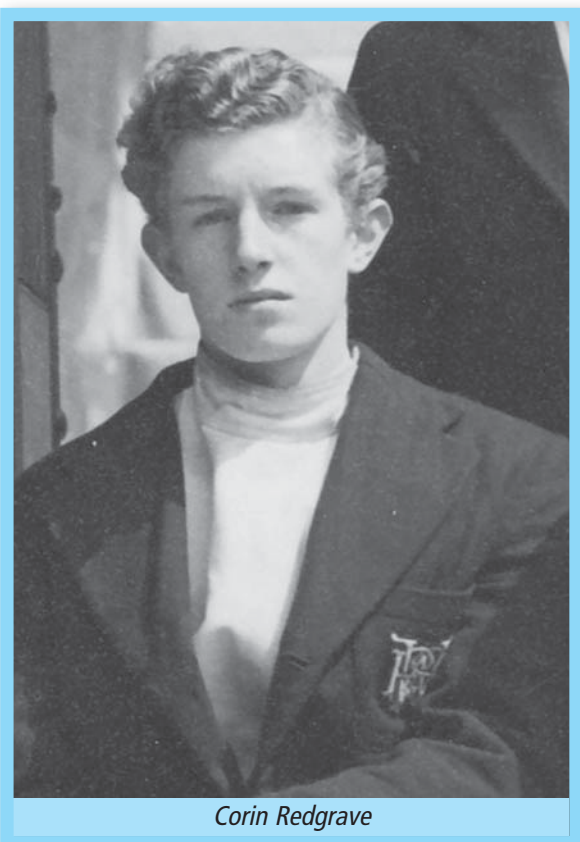


Nick Halsted

Petrie (future ambassador), who won the foil in 1949 and 1950 and in 1950 also the sabre – not his weapon – by "a simple fleche to head and unregenerate foil tactics". In 1954 the epee fell to Ian Cameron, later twice to come third in the Miller-Hallett before commitment to a medical career. In matches, Nigel Lawson, the future Chancellor of the Exchequer, kept winning, though derided for a 'quarterstaff' technique.

Through the 1950s most fencers were more sociable than serious in their attitude, and termed 'the burden' by the elite, who instructed them. Ledger entries, previously high-minded, became more indulgent, but it was by patient training and applied intelligence that Corin Redgrave, in 1956, won the sabre, came 2nd in the foil and 6th in the epee in the Public Schools, making Westminster winners overall for the third time since the war. If he had not given priority to acting he might have reached the British team.

By contrast, Nick Halsted did not gain a Public Schools title, but launched a high-level career when, at the age of 17, he reached the epee final at Leamington (now Birmingham) in 1960. He went on to contribute to the epee team silver medal at the 1965 World Championships, the last of the handful of medals won by Britain. He fenced in the 1968 Olympics at both foil and epee, in four World Championships and in no fewer than seven major international finals (or the equivalent) in the short span between 1967 and 1971, despite being dogged by illness and injury. He also became a potent figure in the administration of British fencing, culminating in a reforming Presidency of the Amateur Fencing Association. ■



Corin Redgrave

Edmund Gray

The National Circuit – A Beginners' Guide

If you were a member of the local tennis club and had dreams of a game with Andy Murray, your dream would be pure fantasy. As a member of your fencing club, however, a wish to fight Britain's top fencer at any weapon could be a reality! Fencing must be one of the few sports where a club member has the opportunity of competing against the very best, and it all happens by way of the National Circuit, which is also replicated at junior levels.

Most weekends somewhere in the UK, there is a national Open and it is precisely that. These competitions are open to any member of the British Fencing Association. From the results, you gain a national ranking and for this reason our top fencers have to enter. Somewhere from 50 to 150 fencers will enter and the usual format is that you are divided up into poules of six or seven, and start with a seeding round. The poules will be drawn so that they are approximately of the same strength (eg. someone from, say, the top 32 in the national ranking, a second person from the next 64, etc). So each poule could have a couple of top fencers.

The results of the seeding round will give you a ranking for the competition, taking the number of victories first, and then your indicator (hits given less hits received – so if you are short on victories, you will probably have a negative indicator). You then move into 'direct elimination' by which the highest ranked fencer will compete against the lowest ranked. So for instance, if there were 64 entries, the No. 1 seed would fence number 64, 2 against 63, 3 against 62 and so forth. If you lose the fight, you are then out of the competition.

To get ranking points, you have to be in the top 64 and 75% of those who have entered. So in the example just given of 64 entries, only the first 48 would get ranking points. The number of points you get will depend on the number and strength of the entry and a factor is calculated for each competition. Your national ranking is then fixed by the aggregate of the points from your best six competitions

in a 12-month rolling period. But entry to just one competition could give you a national ranking.

Some competitions have two seeding rounds, but where the entry is very large, there may be a cut-off point with perhaps only the top 80% getting through to the direct elimination. In these competitions, it is then usual to run a 'plate' event, that is a competition open to all those who have been eliminated in the early stages. Fencers generally are a very friendly lot and once you have been to a few Opens, you will find you are greeted and welcomed by others and it becomes like belonging to a national club.

Occasionally one will hear someone who has done a national Open, moaning that they went all that way, fenced five or six bouts and were then eliminated. They are probably missing the value that was there for the taking. Fencing within your club is fine, but you get very used to the styles of other members. Going to an Open challenges you with many other styles and tactics. And once you have been knocked out, don't go off in a huff, but go and watch how others cope with fencers who beat you. National Opens provide a wealth of new ideas on how to use your fencing skills. Try out someone else's style and adapt it for yourself. Also, if space permits, there is nothing to stop you challenging another fencer who has been eliminated and having your own little private fight.

The cost of entry is between £15 and £25; you then have your travel costs and, if the competition is more than 150 miles away, probably accommodation as well. If this is going to hit your finances too hard, club together with a few others and share rooms and travel costs.

Do we take our National Circuit too much for granted? Should we not make more use of this very exceptional opportunity that fencing provides, of being able to compete against the very best? Enter, have fun, and gain a wealth of experience. ■

Jim Pilkington

Round-Up

KRUSE & DAVIS CLIMB RANKINGS

After winning a bronze medal at the Wakayama men's foil Grand Prix in Japan, Richard Kruse moved to 13th in the world rankings. He won all his poule bouts and had a bye to the L64 where he easily dispatched Wing Hong Chu (HKG) 15-4 and then Martino Minuto (ITA) 15-7. The world No. 1 and current world champion, Andrea Cassara of Italy, was his next opponent in the L16. Apart from a single blip a year ago, Cassara has won medals in six of his last eight tournaments and Kruse has only beaten him at senior level once – in the Singapore Masters of 2010. But this time was different. "I hit him with a lot of counter-attacks, when he got too greedy with his preparation", said Richard. "Parry ripostes were not working because he was able to remise before I could riposte; his hand is incredibly fast. Also, I hit him with attacks to the outside line i.e. flank and chest (in the sixte line). I couldn't hit him on the chest in the inside line because his quarte parry was too good." Kruse won 15-13 and then beat Enzo Lefort (FRA) 15-8 to guarantee himself a medal, just losing by one hit in the semi-finals to the eventual winner and world No. 6, Jianfei Ma of China.

James Davis also had a good run, taking out Benoit Journet (FRA) 14-13, 2010 world champion Peter Joppich (GER) 15-12 and then world No. 8 Victor Sintes (FRA) 15-8.

He fell at the quarter-final stage 11-15 to Marius Braun (GER) to finish a very good 6th, climbing to 33 in the world, the second highest British men's foilist.

BIRMINGHAM INTERNATIONAL

The traditional Birmingham Easter tournament attracted the highest percentage of overseas fencers for 3 years. No surprise then that the final match of the final event on Sunday went to the last hit.

The French club, Cercle D'Escrime Rouen, brought 34 fencers of a wide range of ability and age and each thoroughly enjoyed their competition. Fencers from other nations made it one of the most international tournaments for some time.

The weekend hosted a surprise visit from BFA chairman David Teasdale at the start of his roadshow sequence and the opportunity for fencers to meet him informally was well taken up. Great fun was had all weekend, plus super feedback about the use of the bigger display screens for sharing fencer information immediately from the control room and overall clarity of organisation.

Joan Whitehouse



Rouen fencers with Mike & Joan Whitehouse (Chair & Secretary of the Birmingham tournament), standing at centre

ALENCON

For a few of us, the epee competition in Alencon In Normandy at the end of October is as much part of our fencing itinerary as, say, the Welsh or Bristol. It is an event to which we look forward each year in that, apart from a competition (two if you are Vet), it makes a splendid weekend away in France set in the medieval city of Alencon. It also comes at a time of the year that is ideal to stock up with French wines and produce for Christmas.

On the Saturday afternoon is a Vets competition, which is run with small handicaps according to your age group, and on the Sunday an Open. There are also competitions for the younger age groups. It is a very well run event and in the 12 or so times I have been I have never known there to be a hitch or long wait between rounds.

This special connection between Alencon and Great Britain started back in 1998, when Nicholas Granjon, a member of the Alencon Fencing Club, came to London as Marketing Manager for French Apples. He trained at Haverstock and joined in our national circuit for four seasons. He encouraged his club mates from Alencon to come over and the Birmingham International was particularly favoured. In turn GB fencers started going to Alencon – some years as many as 18, other years just a few of us.

Unlike most British competitions, you do not get a medal but instead something a bit more practical. See the photo of Kat Smith (Truro) with a bouquet of flowers and a prize of a slow cooker at the base of the podium, for coming second in the women's epee last year. As for the fencing itself, it is a little different from what one usually experiences in a British Open. More footwork, absence of blade, greater use of timing and distance, with a larger proportion of fencers using a French grip, makes for an inspiring weekend.

Entry to the competition for overseas fencers is free and if a small group go together in a car, the cost of the ferry and hotel can usually be contained within around £120 per head. For further information on suggested hotels visit the website www.salago.com and click on sponsorship.

Date for this year's tournament will be confirmed in July, but will be either 27/28 October or 3/4 November. For the last 2 years the competition has taken place in a brand new sports hall, is run on 18 pistes and is close to the city centre. Most poules have independent referees.

Jim Pilkington

FENCING MARATHON

The University of Surrey Fencing Club held its first 24-hour fencing marathon on the weekend of 24/25 March in the aid of Help for Heroes and Chase Children's Hospice. Aimed primarily at university students, the event attracted participants from Royal Holloway, Sussex and Imperial College, as well as local fencers and the Army. Fencing started at 11am on Saturday and continued until midday Sunday to account for the clocks going forwards.

Surrey Sports Park provided two main event pistes which alternated every 5 minutes. Fencers hooked up and got ready ahead of time so that when one piste finished the other one began immediately, ensuring that there would be 24 hours on non-stop fencing and a total of 288 bouts. There were also several other sets of scoring equipment



Kat Smith on the podium



Steve the Stag and Colossus D'Bear (photo: Rob Spencer)



Marathon participants (photo: Rob Spencer)

for fencers to use at their pleasure and these saw action in team events and grudge matches from the BUCS season.

To keep fencers' minds sharp despite their sleep-deprived state things were spiced up by running mini events such as 'opposite hand hour'. This is funny to watch normally but, when it's 5am and everyone is tired, it's hilarious. At 6am everyone was roused to action for the final push by hearing the national anthems of all the countries the students represented.

One of the highlights was the midnight mascot face off: Steve the Stag of Surrey v Colossus D'Bear of Holloway. The bout started slowly with both animals getting a feel for each other as this was the first time either of them had fenced. Colossus made a series of attacks and stop hits that saw him take the lead. Steve then went on the attack and was starting to pull it back, but sadly time was against him and Colossus won 11-8. Steve has vowed he will train hard and get his own back. To see them in action search you tube for 'Mascot Fencing!'

So after 24 hours, hundreds of fights, thousands of points scored and very little sleep, the final total raised was £4592.12, simply fantastic! Megan Warren from Royal Holloway was the best fundraiser, making £1000 on her own, and is now the proud owner of a brand new kit bag thanks to Leon Paul who provided it as a prize.

Ben Carter, University of Sussex captain, said: "It was both mentally and physically draining, but at the same time one of the best events I have ever had the pleasure of taking part in. Everyone was enthusiastic and a true credit to themselves, the sport and their universities."

The 24-hour fencing marathon will return next year. To register an interest, email ussu.fencing@surrey.ac.uk.

Sharon Blackman

VETS NEWS

European Team Championships

Britain's women's sabre team dominated their six-strong event to win gold in the 2012 European championships in Kalmar, Sweden. Despite captain Beth Davidson suffering a calf injury, the team of Davidson, Jane Hutchison, Vanessa Hendra and Michele Narey beat both France and Russia 6-3 in the first two matches to gain a bye to the semi-finals. An easy victory over Italy 5-0 took them into the final against Germany where they gave a confident display to win 5-3.

CLUB NEWS

Egham Fencing Club has celebrated its 35th anniversary with a presentation to its founder coach Derek Evered, who started fencing in 1947 at the Polytechnic Regent Street and later, while a senior lecturer in Biochemistry at the University of London, qualified as a coach with the British Academy of Fencing.

He founded the Egham club in 1976 as a Sunday afternoon class to which 24-year-old Mick Johnson and 47-year-old Derek Freeborn turned up. They are both still with the club, Mick as a coach and Derek as vice-president. When Derek Evered, now 86 and affectionately known as the "old fox", and Derek Freeborn, 81, meet on the piste, they are distinguished by being referred to as "old Derek" and "young Derek".

Two years ago, with the need to run a session for the 10-14 age group, the club moved from Egham to the Spelthorne Leisure Centre in Staines, bringing in as head coach Herman Du Preez, who came from South Africa to qualify in England and has a Hungarian diploma. The club now provides fencing for a wide cross section of the community in a friendly atmosphere. Last year the club received full Clubmark certification from Sport England.



Derek Evered

Herefordshire Fencing Club is celebrating the arrival of kit purchased with a Sport England grant. The lottery-funded award has provided ten sets of senior beginners' kit and ten sets of junior equipment. The club was formed in October 2011 to provide a venue and coaching for fencers of all ages – something lacking in the county in recent years. It is based at the newly built Hereford Academy in a superb six-court sports hall with wood flooring. Club coach is Dan Robinson who brings a wealth of experience in national and international competitions.

Over 15 young fencers now attend the weekly sessions and the seniors provide a good mix of experienced fencers and beginners. The club has four electric sets and can provide kit for most sizes. Wheelchair fencing has provided an additional challenge. The new season will begin on 3rd September and anyone wishing to join or



book a place on a beginners' course should access the website www.herefordshirefencingclub.com or telephone 01568611621.

Peter Ellis

Lisburn Gladiators Fencing Club supplied seven of Northern Ireland's 400 Olympic torch relay runners. They were all nominated for their volunteering with GoldMark, a programme aimed at recognising sports volunteering for 14 to 24-year-olds. They volunteered at the European Fencing Championships in Sheffield and the British Transplant Games and Boccia World Cup in Belfast last summer. It normally takes 2 years to achieve the 200-hour GoldMark certificate, but the Lisburn fencers all volunteered for 350 hours in 5 weeks alone. This is alongside their volunteering within fencing as coaches or club leaders, for which they do mini-fence sessions in primary schools, scout groups and church groups.

Alison Slater

(from left) back: Kiara Kennedy, Alastair McIlwee, Laurence Slater, Philip Slater; front: Felix Yim, Alison Slater, Felicity McKee



KRUSE WINS EUROPEAN BRONZE

In a good preparation for the London Olympic Games, Richard Kruse won a men's foil bronze medal at the European championships in Legnano. He has now taken home two silver and two bronze medals from this event. "I wanted to push myself to the limit and I did just that", Richard said. "I'll settle for bronze now and we'll work on fitness when we get back."

With no air-conditioning and sweltering conditions in the hall, Kruse started poorly and was seeded only 45th after the poules. But in the DE, he quickly got into his stride, beating 2004 Olympic champion Guyart (FRA) 15-4 and Schlosser (AUT) 15-5.

At 11-2 up against Hertsyk (UKR), he looked in complete control, but lost concentration and allowed the Ukrainian to collect 11 hits before refocusing to win 15-13. He then stormed to a 15-4 victory over Ganeev (RUS) to reach the semi-finals. Against the top Russian and world No. 7 Cheremisinov, he produced another high octane performance to lead 10-5, but when the Russian took an injury time out for a back problem, Kruse lost momentum and could score only one more hit, as Cheremisinov came back to win 15-11.



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Artist

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to murals and
anything in
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An Eye on The Prize

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Young Fencer



Amy Radford with an engraved glass trophy in recognition of her unique achievement in winning the Warwick LPJS Epee on eight successive occasions from 2004 to 2011 – twice at each age group, the maximum possible run of victories at this event.

JAMIE ACKERMAN TROPHY

A trophy to celebrate the life of 17-year-old Jamie Ackerman, a member of Truro Fencing Club who was killed in a road traffic accident on 13th November 2011, has been unveiled. The impressive trophy, which measures 4ft x 1 ft and will be on display at the club, features a Bob Anderson rapier mounted on a finely figured wooden board. It will be awarded annually to the club's most improved epeeist.

Jamie's family said he had a "huge smile for everybody and enjoyed every moment of his life to the full. He will leave a lasting hole in all our lives. He helped many people and greeted everyone with a kindness and patience that can only be described as one of a kind. He was refreshingly colourful and could always bring laughter and happiness to any room. He was an inspiration to all who knew him."

Truro Fencing Club's head coach Jon Salfield said the talented member, who had represented Great Britain in the under-17s team, would be sadly missed. He added: "We have more than 100 members but we're a very close-knit community and it's obviously been tough for the whole club. He was popular through the whole of British fencing and it is so sad that Jamie will never have the chance to realise his potential."

The trophy was made possible by generous donations from club members.

Richard Bonehill
President, Truro Fencing Club





Five young fencers were presented with certificates by Clare Halsted to mark the completion of a 3-month course at Salle Paul for the physical section of the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. The course ended with a poule unique won by Lydia Pearce in a close run competition. (From left): Lydia Pearce, Caroline Crang, Ákos Marinki (Coach), Clare Halsted, Seeta Parmar, Lavanya Sirdhr, Nadav Shina.



14-year-old Gabby Down is the youngest fencer to represent Team GB at the Paralympic Games and possibly the youngest ever Paralympic fencer. She will be part of the women's epee team. Gabby, from Milton Keynes, started fencing when she was nine and is the current under-18 wheelchair champion at foil and epee. The children's charity Variety has provided her with a grant of £2000 to assist with training and the cost of attending the Games.

Results

NOTE TO COMPETITION ORGANISERS

Some results are sent to the BFA website in non-HTML format, such as pdf files. These are fine for reading, but do not allow copying and editing for publication in *The Sword*. For the sake of archived records, it would be appreciated if results could always be sent in HTML, otherwise they will not be published.

COMBINED EVENTS - ABROAD

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS: 15/20.6.12

Men's Foil

Bronze – Richard Kruse

COMBINED EVENTS - HOME

BRITISH SCHOOLS TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS: 10/11.3.12

U18 Boys Foil (7)

1. Harrow
2. Lister Community School
- 3= Brentwood
- 3= Colchester RGS

U15 Boys Foil (9)

1. Brentwood
2. Lycée Français
- 3= Westminster B
- 3= Colchester RGS

U13 Boys Foil (14)

1. Sussex House A
2. Billericay
- 3= Sussex House B
- 3= St Benedict's

U11 Boys Foil (10)

1. Sussex House A
2. Sussex house B
- 3= Sussex House C
- 3= Sussex House D

U15 Girls Foil

1. Chelmsford High
2. Ipswich High

U13 Girls' Foil

1. Lycée Français
2. Woodrush High
- 3= Guildford High
- 3= Chelmsford High

U11 Girls Foil

1. Ecole Battersea
2. Guildford High
3. Ipswich High
4. Old Heath School

U18 Boys Epee (11)

1. Reigate College
2. Dulwich College
- 3= Abingdon
- 3= Harrow

U15 Boys Epee (9)

1. Abingdon
2. Crispin School
- 3= King's Canterbury
- 3= Reigate School

U13 Boys Epee

1. Sussex House
2. Bromsgrove Prep
3. Brentwood
4. Lycée Français

U11 Boys Epee (9)

1. Knightsbridge
2. Sussex House
- 3= Lycée Français
- 3= Packwood Haugh

U15 Girls Epee

1. City of London Freemen's School
2. RGS Worcester
3. Lycée Française

U13 Girls Epee

1. Plymouth College A
2. Plymouth College B
- 3= Francis Holland
- 3= Lycée Français

U11 Girls Epee

1. Hill House
2. King's Cliffe & Oundle Middle School
3. Gosforth Central Middle School

U18 Boys Sabre (6)

1. King Edward VI Shakespeare's
2. Elizabeth College A
- 3= Elizabeth College B
- 3= SGS Filton College

U15 Boys Sabre (8)

1. Kennal
2. Brentwood
- 3= Whitgift
- 3= Elizabeth College

U13 Boys Sabre (9)

1. King Edward VI Shakespeare's
2. Sussex House
- 3= Dulwich
- 3= Lycée Français

U11 Boys Sabre

1. Sussex House
2. Ecole Battersea
3. Lycée Français

U15 Girls Sabre

1. Lycée Français
2. Ipswich High
3. Cranbrook
4. Millfield

EDINBURGH OPEN: 10/11.3.12

Men's Foil (32)

1. O'DONNELL Callum (WFFC)
2. HART Graeme (RAF)
- 3= STANBRIDGE Paul (EFC)
- 3= WEBSTER John (EFC)
5. RIVA Edmundo (EDINBURGH UNI)
6. WYNN Tim (ABERDEEN CITY)
7. EDGAR Jeff (EDINBURGH UNI)
8. FIRTH Jamie (MALVERN)
9. WILLIAMS Alex (WALLACE)
10. JOHNSTON Alastair (ABERDEEN UNI)
11. MONK Alex (WFFC)
12. BROWN Peter (BELFAST)
13. WHITE David (BELFAST)
14. TANNOCK Neil (MALVERN)
15. MAXWELL Paul (TEESSIDE)
16. PERESSE Yan (ST ANDREWS UNI)

Women's Foil (13)

1. DICKSON Chloe (DUNFERMLINE)
2. DROSSO Sophie (SHETLAND)
- 3= CABRELLI Maria (GWFC)
- 3= SMITH Katie (EFC)
5. HEYES Cathy (PRESTON)
6. MORRISON Ailsa (EFC)
7. O'DONNELL Niamh (WFFC)
8. COYLE Fiona (ABERDEEN UNI)

Men's Epee (47)

1. LISTON George (RAF)
2. TANNOCK Neill (MALVERN)
- 3= HENDERSON Matt (EFC)
- 3= JOHNSTON Calum (EDINBURGH UNI)
5. WOOLLARD Jonathan (HERIOT WATT)
6. DAVIDSON Craig (EFC)
7. HEDBERG Magnus (EDINBURGH UNI)
8. JOHNSTON Alastair (ABERDEEN UNI)
9. FIRTH Jamie (MALVERN)
10. GORDON Adam (MALVERN)
11. SPICER Tristan (NEWCASTLE)
12. TAYLOR Christopher (HERDWICK)
13. TECHER Henri (GWFC)
14. McMENEMY Scott (ABERDEEN CITY)
15. LAUCLAN Mark (WALLACE)
16. POCOCC Matt (STIRLING UNI)

[No Women's Epee]

Men's Sabre (13)

1. MONCREIFF Harry (U/A)
2. WILLIAMSON Andrew (EFC)
- 3= CLOUGHLEY Connor (WFFC)
- 3= VEITCH Robert (RIVINGTON PARK)
5. DAWKINS Jonathan (BRISTOL)
6. GIBSON Rory (SHEFFIELD)
7. HUTCHINSON Richard (HULL UNI)
8. BYRNE Keiran (ASHTON)

Women's Sabre (13)

1. GERNERD Liz (EFC)
2. CARSON Victoria (CITY)
- 3= DAYKIN Kate (WFFC)
- 3= FARMER Naomi (EFC)
5. PLEASANT Bridget (ABERDEEN UNI)
6. LAND Stephanie (U/A)
7. PALFY Gabriella (DUNDEE)
8. ELYS Laycy (ST PAUL'S)

INVICTA OPEN: 17/18.3.12

Men's Foil (69)

1. COOKE Chris (BOSTON)
2. WARD Samuel (TOUCHE)
- 3= ALVEAR Felipe (CHI)
- 3= BROSNAN James (PAUL)
5. HENDRIE Tom (SUSSEX HOUSE)
- 6= LLOYD Alexander (ZFW)
- 6= SADIQ Hussain (ACADEMY)
8. ALVEAR Anibal (CHI)
9. SIMS Richard (CARU)
10. SILVA Ruben (CHI)
11. CHEW Michael (PLYMOUTH)
12. BARTLETT Tony (LANSDOWNE)
13. CHAN Hamish (PAUL)
14. SUTTON Mark (BOSTON)
15. CAUSTON Brian (BRIGHTON & HOVE)
16. MALDOOM Edz (SAXON)
17. DEVITT Ronnie (CYRANO)
18. NORSA Emanuele (PAUL)
19. FLETCHER Thomas (KENT UNI)
20. LEE Toby (SUSSEX HOUSE)
21. QUESTIER Michael (U/A)
22. PRYOR John (TENTERDEN)
23. JORDAN Peter (PAUL)
24. MORT Nick (SAXON)
25. LOWEN Paul (SAXON)
26. DEMPSEY Patrick (SAXON)
27. WYLIE Ali (ACADEMY)
28. VAN DER POLL Patrick (NED)
29. ANDREWS Ben (GRAVESHAM)
30. DI FRANCESCO Hugo (ACADEMY)
31. PARSONS Thomas (CYRANO)
32. SMITH Christopher (SURREY UNI)

Women's Foil (30)

1. GARCIA Barbara (CHI)
2. McDERMOTT Chiara (CRAWLEY)
- 3= BEAVER Elizabeth (CADS)
- 3= SILVA Paula (CHI)
5. NEMITZ Marion (BOSTON)
6. CLAYTON Jane (MALLARD)
7. CHURCH Amy (ALDRSHOT)
8. KWOK Rachel (ACADEMY)
9. HULL Nicola (MAIDSTONE)
10. FRANCIS Raelle (ACADEMY)
11. GOODCHILD Emily (SALISBURY)
12. KOZLENKO Melissa (CARU)
13. CSERNY Erika (CDA)
14. PARSONS Aimee (BOSTON)
15. STEACY Sarah (CRAWLEY)
16. RICH Elaria (SURREY SWORDS)



A.T.F.C

60th ASHTON OPEN

1953.....2012



Leon Paul

The Ashton Open (near Manchester) 20th and 21st October 2012

Novice, Intermediate or International – All are welcome at the Ashton Open.

The first all-weapon Open with the same name over one weekend.

VENUE – Astley Sports College, Yew Tree Lane, Dukinfield, Tameside, SK16 5BL

Tel. 0161-3382374 (directions and further details can be found on our website – ashtonfencingclub.org.uk)

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SATURDAY 20th October 2012	Check-in Opens	Closes
Men's foil	09-00	09-30
Women's foil	10-00	10-30

SUNDAY 21st October 2012		
Men's epee	09-00	09-30
Women's epee	09-30	10-00
Men's sabre	11-00	11-30
Women's sabre	12 noon	12-30

OVER £1,500 available in prizes

Prizes for all events with 75 or more or entries:

1st prize £250, 2nd £200, equal 3rd £150

50 or more entries: 1st prize £200, 2nd £100, equal 3rd £75

Reducing for 25 and 12 or more entries.....Prizes for the best placed Veteran

ENTRIES TO: Irena Andrew, 2 Upperthong Lane, Holmfirth HD9 3BE Email: andrewm789@aol.com

FEE £20, two weapons £30. Late entries £25 per event (accepted at organisers' discretion)

PAYABLE TO: Ashton Fencing Club CLOSING DATE 8th October 2012

60th ASHTON OPEN 2012

Entries to: Irena Andrew 2, Upperthong Lane, Holmfirth HD9 3BE

Surname.....Forename.....Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms

[Please use block letters]

Address.....

.....Post code.....

Telephone number.....BFA number.....

Mobile number.....Email address.....

Please indicate Veteran.....

Weapon Men's foil.....Epee.....Sabre.....

Women's foil.....Epee.....Sabre.....

Club.....Entry fee enclosed.....

Signature.....

(Parent or guardian if under 18)

8. WATT Archie (WEST MIDLANDS)
9. HOLDEN James (NORTH WEST)
10. WESTHEAD Daniel (NORTH WEST)
11. WHITING Reuben (WEST MIDLANDS)
12. BENNETT Tolland (SOUTHERN)
13. McDOUGALL Alexander (SOUTH EAST)
14. McLLELLAN Samuel (SCOTLAND CENTRAL)
15. SMITH Rohan (NORTH WEST)
16. RICARD Jules (LONDON)

GIRLS SABRE**U18 (8)**

1. DIXON Harriet (SOUTH WEST)
2. DAVIES Harriet (SOUTHERN)
- 3= BEDDOE Megan (SOUTH EAST)
- 3= RUAUX Emily (NORTH WEST)

U16 (18)

1. SLEEMAN Kiera (SOUTH WEST)
2. DAYKIN Kate (SCOTLAND CENTRAL)
- 3= GLADDISH Laura (SOUTH EAST)
- 3= TURNBULL Isabel (SOUTH EAST)
5. WYATT Layla (SOUTH WEST)
6. MOFFAT Alice (WEST MIDLANDS)
7. BANKS Paisley (SOUTH WEST)
8. COOPER Poppie (SOUTH EAST)

U14 (30)

1. ANIL Shreya (WEST MIDLANDS)
2. MAXWELL Caitlin (SOUTH WEST)
- 3= CHART Maria (SOUTH WEST)
- 3= CORBY Jessica (SCOTLAND CENTRAL)
5. SMITH Millie (SOUTH WEST)
6. FOSTER Charlotte (EASTERN)
7. PLANT Bethan (SOUTH WEST)
8. HUTTON Daisy (SOUTH EAST)
9. ROSCOE Sophie (WEST MIDLANDS)
10. GOODGER Roshan (WEST MIDLANDS)
11. STEVENS Miranda (SOUTH EAST)
12. BUTLIN Olivia (EASTERN)
13. MORGAN Eleanor ((ellie) EASTERN)
14. ALBA Adrienne (LONDON)
15. BLACK Gabrielle (LONDON)
16. HALLIWELL Chloe (WEST MIDLANDS)

U12 (21)

1. MOFFAT Lizzie (WEST MIDLANDS)
2. FASHOKUN Maia (SOUTH WEST)
- 3= HASLEGRAVE Phoebe (WEST MIDLANDS)
- 3= MANSON Lucie (LONDON)
5. TIMMIMS Georgia (SOUTH WEST)
6. EASTWOOD Annabel (SOUTH WEST)
7. HUGHES Kathryn (SOUTHERN)
8. LOUIS Avery (LONDON)

BRIGHTON OPEN: 6.5.12**Men's Foil (41)**

1. MAKUJEWICZ Alek (PAUL)
2. BROUGHAM Sam (LOUTH)
- 3= GAJADHARSINGH Gerry (LANSDOWNE)
- 3= MOLLARD Christopher (SAXON)
5. LOWEN Paul (SAXON)
6. SUTTON Mark (BOSTON)
7. DENHAM Leo (BRIGHTON & HOVE)
8. DARRoux Steve (SMJ)
9. QUESTIER Michael (CRAWLEY)
10. O'HARA Oscar (CHICHESTER)
11. SAVIN Alexander (BOSTON)
12. TOPP Stephen (BOSTON)
13. LAGATTOLLA Raffaele (SUSSEX UNI)
14. HARDEN Paul (SAXON)
15. WATTS John (BRIGHTON & HOVE)
16. WHELAN Jim (PORTSLADE)

Women's Foil (13)

1. TOWNSEND Dawn (SWAY)
2. PARSONS Aimee (CYRANO)
- 3= GOODCHILD Emily (SALISBURY)
- 3= KOZLENKO Melissa (CARU)
5. STEACY Sarah (CRAWLEY)
6. RUSSELL Faye (KENT UNI)
7. McKEAN Helen (SMJ)
8. BEGBOUR Lauren (WINCHESTER)

Men's Epee (48)

1. TREDGER Dudley (CRAWLEY)
2. WEST Howard (LTFC)
- 3= EDWARDS Tom (REDHILL & REIGATE)
- 3= MAYNARD Calum (EGHAM)
5. CALLAWAY Gary (SEACOURT)
6. GANDOLFI Miles (SUSSEX UNI)
7. MILLER Will (EASTBOURNE)
8. DE BURGH Etienne (GADASKI)
9. IQBAL Adeel (GADASKI)
10. PINK Simon (TUNBRIDGE WELLS)
11. BURWOOD George (BRIGHTON UNI)
12. BUZWELL Tim (LTFC)
13. ROCKS Christopher (SHETLAND)
14. STUART Josh (REDHILL & REIGATE)
15. LEES Kevin (REGENT)
16. GUSTAVII Henrik (REDHILL & REIGATE)
17. LOWE David (STREATHAM)
18. FLORESCU SERBAN Silviu (GADASKI)
19. SEALE Alexander (SAXON)
20. PACIFICO Carlo (LTFC)
21. ST CLAIR JONES Greg (PORTSLADE)
22. TOOLIS Thomas (HAVERSTOCK)
23. ASHCROFT Jonathan (IMPERIAL COL)
24. KOC Umut (GADASKI)

MANCHESTER CADET INTERNATIONAL

Saturday 22nd September 2012

3rd year on the European Cadet FOIL Circuit



GBR Ranking Foil and Epee competition

Entries directly through of our website

<http://www.manchestercadet.org>

No restriction for entries in all weapons

Eligibility: Manchester Cadet is open to all male and female foilists and epeeists who were born on the 1st January, 1996 or later.

Entry Fee: For one weapon only - £20, late entries will be £25

Venue: **BOLTON ARENA**, Arena Approach Horwich, BL6 6LB.

Entries: Entries must arrive no later than 15th September.

NO paper entries accepted!

Contact: For any additional enquiries, please contact Dr Colin Walls, webmaster, on 0161 3661232.

All entries are accepted on the understanding that the organising committee, officials, referees and Bolton Arena cannot be held responsible for any accident, loss or damage to persons or property however sustained at the tournament.

See the provisional programme and regulations on our website.



2012 Sussex Open Fencing

Organised by Sussex County Fencing Union

See www.sussexfencing.org.uk for further details.

Venue: Portslade Sports Centre, Chalky Road, Portslade, Brighton, BN41 2WS

EVENTS

Saturday 13th October	Close of check-in	Sunday 14 th October	Close of check-in
Men's Epee	10 am	Men's Foil	9 am
Women's Epee	12 noon	Women's Foil	11 am

Competition run to BFA rules, subject to organisers' discretion.

If you are delayed on the day, phone 07986630531

Cut here-----

Entry Form – Write Clearly/Type

Full Name:					
Address					
Post Code:		Tel. Number:			
Email:					
Emergency contact:	(Name & Number)				
Club:			License No:		
Tick as appropriate	Male	Female	Current Rank	Cadet	Veteran 40+
Foil					
Epee					

Entry fee: £17 per weapon, **£28** for the same person entering **Foil** and **Epee**.

Late entries at organisers' discretion (£25). You must bring proof of BFA membership with you.

Write name and weapon/s on the back of cheque.

Closing date for entries: 1st October 2012

I accept that the organisers cannot be held responsible for accident, loss or damage sustained at the competition.

Signed: _____ (Parent/Guardian if Under-18) Date: _____

N.B. Entry is not open to anyone under 13 on 01.01.2012

Send entry form with cheque payable to **Sussex County Fencing Union** to:

Brian Causton, Brightsands, Falmer Road, Rottingdean, BRIGHTON, East Sussex BN2 7FQ or

Paypal: sussexfencing@gmail.com (include name, weapon and BFA No.)

Email: for late entry information and other questions: sussexfencing@gmail.com

Parking and Access: Free car parking is available at the venue for all competitors and spectators.

Refreshments: The sports centre will be serving food and drinks on both days throughout the competition.

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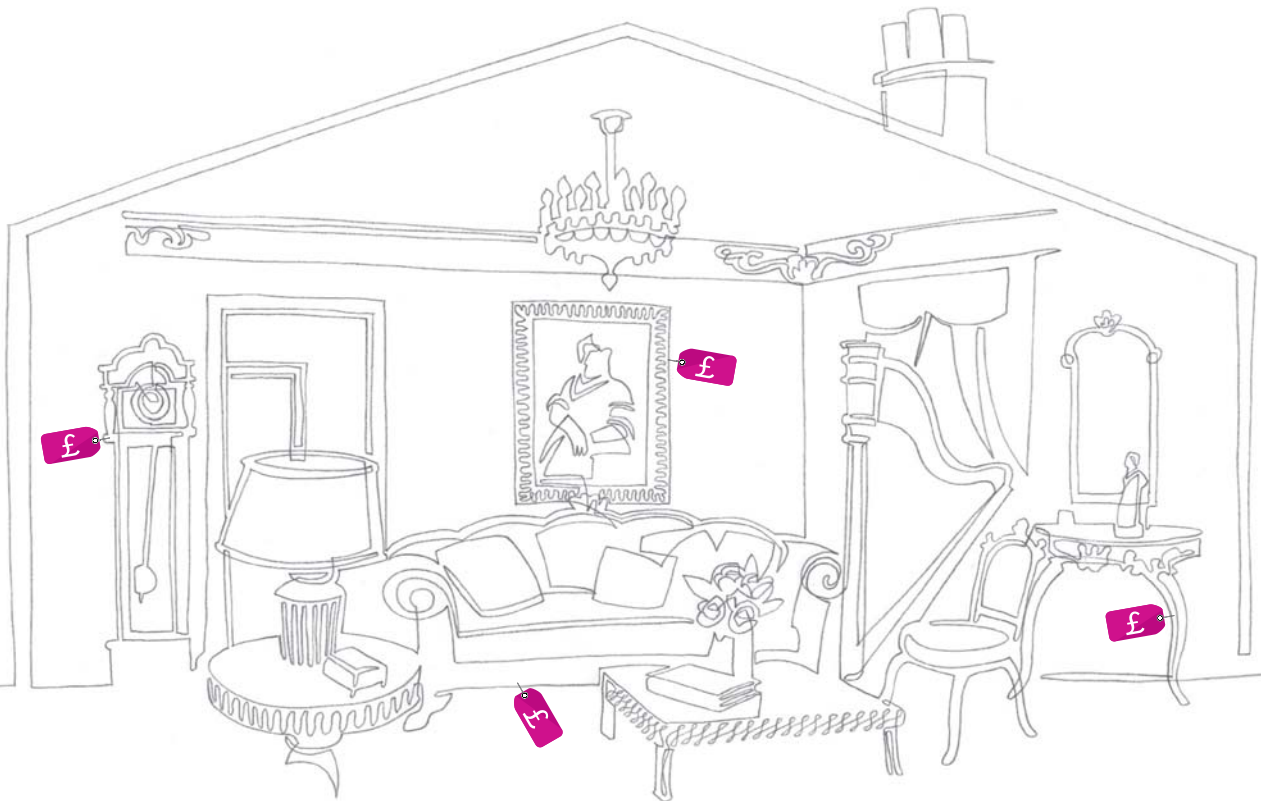
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