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|  | **NEWSLETTER****December 2014** |

Dear All,

The current term is fast drawing to a close, so a big thank you for coming to fencing this year and helping make the club what it is. We hope you have enjoyed your fencing sessions enough to want to continue in 2015. Please also encourage your friends and family to give our wonderful sport a try.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**MONDAYS**                                       JANUARY 5, 12, 19, 26.

                                                         FEBRUARY 2, 9, 23  (NO 16TH AS IT'S HALF TERM)

                                                         MARCH 2, 9, 16, 23.

**THURSDAYS**                                JANUARY 8, 15, 22, 29.

                                                        FEBRUARY 5, 12, 26. (NO 19TH AS IT'S HALF TERM)

                                                        MARCH 5, 12, 19, 26.

**SUNDAYS**                                      JANUARY 11, 18, 25.

                                                        FEBRUARY 1, 8, 22. (NO 15TH AS IT'S HALF TERM)

                                                        MARCH 1, 8, 15, 22.

**SESSIONS AND FEES FOR NEXT TERM:**

MONDAY JUNIORS    5.30 - 6.30 @£7 PER SESSION X 11 SESSIONS = £77

MONDAY TEENS        6.30 - 7.45 @ 9 PER SESSION X 11 SESSIONS = £99

MONDAY ADULTS     8 - 10 @ £10 PER SESSION (WITHOUT PRIVATE LESSONS)

                                     X 11 SESSIONS = £110

MONDAY ADULTS      8 - 10 @£15 PER SESSION (WITH PRIVATE LESSONS)

                                     X 11 SESSIONS = £165

THURSDAY TEENS        6.30 - 7.45 @ 9 PER SESSION X 11 SESSIONS = £99

THURSDAY ADULTS      8 - 10 @ £10 PER SESSION (WITHOUT PRIVATE LESSONS)

                                         X 11 SESSIONS = £110

THURSDAY ADULTS      8 - 10 @£15 PER SESSION (WITH PRIVATE LESSONS)

                                         X 11 SESSIONS = £165

SUNDAY JUNIORS         10 - 1 @£10 PER SESSION (WITHOUT PRIVATE LESSONS)

                                         X 10 SESSIONS = £100

SUNDAY JUNIORS         10 - 1 @15 PER SESSION (WITH PRIVATE LESSONS)

                                          X 10 SESSIONS = £150

SUNDAY ADULTS           10 -1 @15 PER SESSION (WITHOUT PRIVATE LESSONS)

                                          X 10 SESSIONS = £150

SUNDAY ADULTS           10 - 1 @£20 PER SESSION (WITH PRIVATE LESSONS)

                                          X 10 SESSIONS = £200

If you are an occasional visitor and wish to pay a visitors fee of £10 per session (without a private lesson) please speak to Prof. to make arrangements.

**PAYMENTS**

Payments may be made ***before or at the beginning of term*** by cash (in an envelope please with the pupils name on the front) or cheque made payable to RTW F/C or by bank transfer to

***The Royal Tunbridge Wells Fencing Club,***

***Account number 03045237***

***Sort Code 30-98-77.***

If fees are not received within two weeks of term starting the unpaid fencer will be asked to temporarily stop attending classes until payment has been made. We would ask for your understanding with this sensitive but on going problem.

As many of you know I have taken less of a role recently in terms of day to day admin for the club as other commitments have had to take priority. For more speedy answers to any queries it is best to contact Prof. in the first instance. Apologies for any lapses/delays as we have been working out how to transition the email etc. for Prof. to manage admin matters – as you know it’s all done voluntarily/unpaid and in our (very limited) spare time!

**NOTICES**

**Congratulations**

Piero Steiner continues to produce excellent results at the National Junior Epee Events.

Following his first place at the Leon Paul Junior Series (LPJS) at the Brixton Epee in June 2014, he then went on to win Bronze at the LPJS Newcastle Epee in October and Bronze again at the LPJS Epee event at Millfield in November.

Very many congratulations to Piero and his Coach Prof. Paul.

Here's looking to an equally successful 2015.

**Termly Club Competitions**

Each term we will be running 3 competitions (spread out evenly over the term) for the Teen groups on Mondays and Thursdays and for the Junior and Adult groups on Sunday.

All fencers will fence electric with scores recorded on the Club's large score board.

Results will be collected and collated and a running ranking list will be posted on the Club's notice board and the winner at the end of term will be the number one ranked fencer and will receive a prize.

This is very good practice for any fencers who are working toward taking part in competitions.

Please find below the dates of each Monday, Thursday and Sunday competitions:

MONDAYS 26th January; 23rd February and 16th March.

THURSDAYS 29th January; 26th February and 19th March.

SUNDAYS 25th January; 22nd February and 15th March.

Not attending all competition days could seriously effect your health (or at least your overall ranking!)

**Sunday ABC (Alcohol Beverage Competition)**

Numbers are growing for the 'fencing on the box' session on a Sunday from 11.30 - 1pm. As well as fencers from the morning session we have other members and non members coming for a good old Sunday bash!

As from next term the above session will be known as the ABC. The Club will donate a bottle of wine or spirits and the assembled fencers will fight off for the prize. Referees and stopwatches will be provided and results will be kept on the club's official score board. A non alcoholic bottle will also be donated for any under 18's that may win the ABC.

**Inter Club / School Team match**

On the continued success of the TWIT competition we have decided to let the Juniors have a go and will be hosting our first Inter Club / School Team match.

On the 24th January the RTW F/C Girl's Cadet Team will be taking on a team from Mayfield Girls’ School; Worth School and either Epsom or Harrow School. If this proves to be a success we will look to host a Cadet or Teens Boys event in the future.

**Sunday Beginner "Drop-ins"**

Beginning next term we are offering Beginner Drop-ins on Sundays. Bi-weekly there will be a coach available to take beginners through basic technique and beginner footwork (Fencing foot movements) for two sessions. Fencers will then be able (if they decide to carry on) to integrate into the main groups (either Adult or Juniors).

The first drop-in date will be the 18th January and follow with subsequent dates on the 1st February, 15th February, 1st March and the 15th March. Please spread the word to any friends or family who may be interested in this.

**CLUB EQUIPMENT**

**Lunging Pads**

We have commissioned the making of several lunging pads to be fixed to the Drill Hall walls which will continue our progress to improve the hall as a serious Salle d'Armes.

**Club pistes**

Works have now been completed on the permanent marking of Fencing Pistes in the Drill Hall.

We have seven pistes, some slightly narrower than regulation (so we could fit more in the space available) and marked out in white with orange lines for the 2 metre warning area as per competition regulations

This has greatly improved the quality of fencing at the club for the adults and helps and educates the Juniors / Teens with the dimensions of the pistes, spacial piste awareness and good preparation for competitions.

Our thanks go out to the TA Centre for agreeing and financing this project and to Don Coe for drafting the plans.

**Favero Reaction Target**

Please see the following link regarding this exciting training aid.

<http://www.favero.com/en1_fencing_electronic_signalling_equipment_for_3_weapons_foil_sword_epee_sabre_wireless_fencing_scoring_machines_apparatus-17.html> .

We would very much like to buy one for the club as we think it will be of great benefit to all our fencers. As you know we run on a shoe string and don’t have much money spare for new equipment unless we can obtain another grant or do some fund raising. Prof. is in the process of negociating a good price for the equipment, should we be able to raise the funds to buy it. (The Steiner’s have family in Italy who live nearby to where it is manufactured and have kindly offered to collect it and transport it to the UK thereby saving on delivery costs).

We will be asking for your help in the New Year to raise funds so that we can continue to improve the facilities and obtain this equipment to enhance your fencing. Please get your thinking hats on – all suggestions and help are really welcome!

**SOCIALS**

**End of Month Thursday Drinks**

The Club will be resuming Thursday drinks in the New Year.

This event falls on the last Thursday of each month after fencing and involves drinking heavily discounted alcohol in the now exclusive bar area.

A token 'wip round' on the night will ensure we can pay our barman (supplied by the TA Centre).

Any suggestions for a social event (combined with fundraiser?) for this term are much appreciated… please contact Prof. or me.

And finally…

Once you have had your turkey and pudding and your thoughts turn to New Year’s resolutions…. get inspired for 2015 by having a look at these interesting clips on YouTube re training methods. Please go to...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zCLYzRbDsJo>

**Happy Christmas and best wishes for 2015 from RTWFencing Club**

Lucy Raj

[www.rtwfencingclub.com](http://www.rtwfencingclub.com)

rtwfencingclub@gmail.com