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|  | **NEWSLETTER****December 2015** |

Dear All,

Another term of fencing has ended and we hope you have enjoyed your sessions and will continue next term.  The dates are listed below and we would be grateful if you could indicate if you are not planning to continue, otherwise we will assume you are!

**THANK YOU**

A HUGE thank you to all who have helped in the past and are currently helping to run aspects of the club, without your help the club could not and would not function.   We cannot thank you enough!!  Without your help with setting up and organising such aspects that support our club including the website and social media feeds, the armoury,  the annual TWIT competition, competition application and attendance, social events, advertising , marketing,  fencing demonstrations, newsletters and accounts and inquiries…… and many other aspects, the club would not be able to function.        **YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOU!**

In fact, so that we can continue to offer as many sessions as currently and hopefully grow the club we desperately need more help.   Many of our founding volunteers who have so generously given their time and effort to help build and run the club to date have, like me, not been able in recent years to give as much time due to growing families and other life demand.  As a result, Prof. has been trying to do much of it on his own.  This is simply not sustainable going forward if we want to maintain and grow the club, so please, if you can help in any way (even if in a small way – all and any help appreciated) with any aspect of running the club, we need to hear from you.

**Julie Couchman** has kindly stepped forward to help with the **website and social media feeds as well as being the competition secretary**, but additional help, particularly in the following would be fantastic…

**Marketing and Advertising**: Do you have a background in this area?  Please if so, we need to hear from you!  Do you have good ideas as to how we can best market and grow our membership (on a shoestring!)?

**Social Secretary**: Do you enjoy organising events?  Would you enjoy finding a venue and organising our Christmas meal and come up with other events during the year?  In the past we have had a social ‘bar night’ at the TAC on the last Thursday of the month, a summer Picnic in the Park, a club visit to a micro-Brewery, curry nights and other events, but we desperately need someone with the time to think up and organise some events for our members.

**Grant Application Assistant/ Sponsorship Arranger**: Are you persuasive?  Would you be interested in trying to find sponsors for the club/ applying for grants?  In the past we have successfully applied for and received almost £20k from grant applications, but we could do with more for new kit and support for some of our budding competitive fencers.

Please either call or email – we would love to hear from you!

**DATES FOR NEXT TERM**

**Sundays**:            January 10, 17, 24, 31

                                    February 7, 21, 28 (no 14 as its half term)

                                    March 6, 13, 20

**Mondays**:                   January 11, 18, 25

                                    February 1, 8, 22, 29 (no 15 as its half term)

                                    March 7, 14, 21

**Thursdays**:                 January 14, 21, 28

                                    February 4, 11, 25 (no 18 as its half term)

                                    March 3, 10, 17

**FEES FOR NEXT TERM**

**Mondays £**

Juniors            5.30 - 6.30                                            £7 per session   x 10 = 70 Teens                  6.30 - 7.45                                          £9 per session  x  10 = 90 Adults                   8.00 - 10.00                                         £10 per session  x 10 = 100

Adults (private lesson)  8.00 - 10.00                     £15 per session x 10= 150

**Thursdays**

Teens                6.30 - 7.45                                             £7 per session x 9 = 63

Adults                8.00 - 10.00                                       £10 per session x 9 = 90

Adults (private lessons)  8.00 - 10.00                         £15 per session x 9 = 135

**Sundays**

Juniors                                                  £10  per session x 10 = 100

Juniors (private lesson)                          £15 per session x10= 150 Adults                                                    £15  per session x 10 = 150

Adults (private lesson)                           £20 per session x 10 = 200

All Sunday classes 10 - 11.30 (warm-up, footwork and technique plus bouting) then 11.30 - 1pm for private lessons/ free fencing on the electrical apparatus and ABC (Alcohol Beverage Competition – every other week). Sunday fees cover the whole session from 10 – 1pm. Up to you how much fencing you want to do.

***Please note, if you have paid for Adult Private lessons on either a Monday or Thursday evening you are entitled to a second private lesson (Coach time permitting) if you attend twice a week.  Evening visitors fee (no private lesson) = £5.00. There is no limit to the amount of visits a non RTW fencer can make during a term.***

**PAYMENTS**

Payments may be made before or at the beginning of term by

 • cash (in an envelope please with the pupil’s 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.***

**TERMLY CLUB COMPETITIONS**

Due to the ongoing success of the competitions we will be continuing these next term. Therefore 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 score board. Results will be collected and collated and a running ranking list will be posted on the Club's notice board and the top three ranked fencers at the end of term will receive prizes. 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: Jan 25, Feb 22 and March 14. THURSDAYS: Jan 28, Feb 25 and March 10. SUNDAYS: Jan 24, Feb 21 and March 13.***  Not attending all competition days could seriously affect 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! The competitions now known as the ABC will run every other Sunday starting on the 17th January. 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.

**COMPETITIONS**

Julie Couchman (competition Secretary) has compiled a competition calendar (which you can find on the club notice board) with all the seasons Veteran, Senior, Junior, Age group and County Competitions at Epee. At the beginning of next term Prof. will compile a list of RTW Fencers who wish to compete in any competitions next term and they will be issued

with a competition pack explaining how to enter competitions etc. If any fencers need to borrow extra kit to compete in competitions please see Prof. Likewise if you are unsure as to what equipment you need for competitions please see Prof.

Fencers (especially Adults) please send in any competition results (and photos if possible) to either Julie (japhcouchman@aol.com) or Prof. (steve@battling.com) for inclusion on the Clubs web site.

We wish you all a Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you all at the beginning of next term.

RTWFC