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|  | **NEWSLETTER****April 2016** |

Dear All,

As you know, Prof. is battling an illness and I am sure you would all wish to join with me in wishing him, from the bottom of our hearts, all the best in this courageous fight – we all know what a champion he is, and that his determination runs very deep...

From next term, as you will be aware from Prof’s recent emails, there will be some changes to the structure of what the club offers. To recap:

We are no longer able to offer the Monday Junior class, but instead there is the option of joining the Sunday Club session 10-11.30am.

We are joining together the Monday and Thursday Teenager and Adult groups into one session running 7-10pm on each of those evenings. It is assumed the Teens will come from 7pm for the first part of the session, but not necessarily stay until the end. Both sessions will be run by Paul Beasley.

For those who have now completed their Bronze award, if enough of you are interested we may be able to offer a Silver Award, but otherwise there is the option to join the evening sessions.

Private lessons on Mondays and Thursdays will be available at an extra cost with Paul Beasley (first come, first served basis, lesson duration dependant on how many opt for this) Many of you already know Paul – we are very grateful to him for stepping in to assist Prof. and I am sure you will all make him feel welcome in this new role.

**DATES FOR NEXT TERM**

**Sundays**:            April 17, 24

 May 1, 8, 15, 22 (no 29 as it’s half term)

 June 5, 12, 19, 26

 July 3, 10

**Mondays**:                   April 11,18, 25

 May 9, 16,23 (no 2 or 30 as it’s Bank Holiday or half term)

 June 6,13,20 and 27

 July 4, 11

**Thursdays**:                 April 14, 21, 28

 May 5, 12, 19,26

 June 9, 16, 23, 30 (no 2 as it is half term)

 July 7,14

**HOURS**

Mondays and Thursdays will be 7pm – 10pm

Sundays will be 10am-1pm

**FEES FOR NEXT TERM**

**Mondays and/ or Thursdays *(based on 12.5 weeks) £***

Teens 112.50

Adults125.00

Adults with Private Lessons 187.50

Evening visitors fee (no private lesson) = £8.00. To make it fairer to committed club fencers we have now put an upper limit of a maximum of 4 sessions a term as a visitor, thereafter we would expect you to join and pay pro-rata for the rest of the term.

**Sundays**

Juniors                                                  £10  per session x 12 = 120

Juniors (private lesson)                          £15 per session x12= 180 Adults                                                    £15  per session x 12 = 180

Adults (private lesson)                           £20 per session x 12 = 240

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.

If you have any questions about the new class structure/fees, please email.

**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: 25th April, 6th June, 4th July. THURSDAYS: 28th April, 9th June, 7th July. SUNDAYS: 1st May, 12th June, 10th July.***  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 24th April. 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.

I hope you have all had a good Easter break and hope to see you at fencing at some point in the coming weeks. On a final note, many thanks to those of you who continue to do so much for the club – be it with clothes orders, armoury, assisting with coaching…. you know who you are and how much you mean to the club – Thank you!

Lucy Raj

RTWFC