



Tis the season to think epee

Pronate your hand away from the mince pies, perform a duck stop hit on the turkey and parry the Christmas pudding – it's time to write a new entry in your diary: Royal Tunbridge Wells Fencing Club reopens on Thursday 4th January. Cue fanfare!

This term, besides our regular classes, we'll also be offering two new beginners courses and individual training for our ever-increasing ranks of intermediate fencers.

The **Adult & Teen beginner** course will start on Thursday 4th January at 7pm and run for 12 weeks. The **Junior beginner** course will start on Sunday 7th January at 10am and run for 11 weeks. Each class will comprise a group warm-up, games, footwork drills, technical skills, and the chance to fence other class members. You'll be so busy having fun that you won't notice how vigorous a physical and mental workout fencing can be!

Our **coaching team** will continue to be led by three-time Olympian Professor Steve Paul, assisted by Paul Beasley, Chris Higginson and Don Coe. Steve will take the Sunday classes, helped by Paul and Chris. Last term, if you were a junior beginner on Sundays, you'll be coached by Steve again this term – alongside Paul and his band of intermediate and advanced juniors. On weekdays, Paul will lead the sessions, with 'guest appearances' by Chris. Additionally, Don will now offer individual coaching on Thursday to our intermediates (Maria, Sue, Suzy, Dudo, Jasmin and Melissa – we're thinking of you).

Information regarding the **times, term dates** and **fees** is to the right. On the second page, you'll find **armoury** costs, as well as information about **club** and **external competitions**.

Finally, a big **thank you** for all of you who helped out last term, be it organising competitions, coaching on a voluntary basis, or packing away (AKA being press-ganged by Charlie). See you several pounds north of here, on the other side of greedy season...

Dates & times

Mondays

7-8pm Juniors (intermediate)

8-930pm Teens & Adults

Start: 8th Jan **End:** 26th Mar

Note: no club 12th Feb (half term)

Thursdays

7-8pm Adult & Teen beginners /
Teen intermediates

8-930pm Teens and Adults

Start: 4th Jan **End:** 29th Mar

Note: no club 15th Feb (half term)

Sundays

10-1130am Juniors – beginner,
intermediate & advanced group
lessons

10am-1pm Teens & Adults

Start: 7th Jan **End:** 25th Mar

Note: no club 11th Feb (half term)

Fees

Based on term lengths of 12 Thursdays
and 11 Mondays and Sundays

Juniors (Mondays)	£88.00
Juniors (Sundays)	£110.00
Teens (Mondays)	£99.00
Teens (Thursdays)	£108.00
Adult beginners (Thursdays)	£108.00
Adult members (weekdays)	£120.00
Adult members (weekdays – with private lessons)	£180.00
Adult members (Sundays)	£165.00
Adult members (Sundays – with private lessons)	£220.00

Monday/Thursday visitors fee £8.00

(note: does not include private lesson)
To make it fairer to committed club fencers we have put an upper limit of 6 sessions a term as a visitor; thereafter we would expect you to join and pay pro-rata for the rest of the term.

PAYMENTS

Payments may be made via:

- 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.



Competition compendium

The popular **Sunday electric junior competitions** will continue next term. This time, though, fencers will be divided into advanced and intermediate leagues (based on a combination of experience and previous results – and perhaps some begging too). A running ranking list will be posted on the club's notice board after each of the three rounds (dates TBC). The top three ranked fencers at the end of the term in each league will receive prizes.

Early in the new year, we will be launching **club competitions** for juniors and seniors. Both competitions will bring together fencers from Mondays, Thursdays and Sundays, who will fight for the right to proclaim themselves 'club champions'. Watch this space...

The club events are great preparation for **external competitions**. For *younger fencers*, there are several county, regional and national-level competitions which take place within striking distance of Tunbridge Wells. For example, there are under 16 and 18 county epee championships in Kent, age-group regional- and national-level competitions such as the Elite Epee (two are held in Surrey every season) and the British Youth Championship qualifiers. Furthermore, there are British Cadet (14-17 years old) and Junior (17-20 years old) events in the London area. Please ask the club coaches which of these are an appropriate level for you.

For *seniors* (any fencer aged 13 or over), there are several competitions within an hour or two of Tunbridge Wells. These include the South East Epee, Aldershot Open, Invicta Open (Kent), the Elite Epees in Surrey, and the Sussex and Brighton Opens. Please see www.britishfencing.com/events for details.

Contact details etc

Address: **Territorial Army Centre, St John's Road, Tunbridge Wells, TN4 9UU** | Course enquiries: rtwfencingclub@gmail.com
Attendance: **Can't make it on a Monday or Thursday? Text Paul on 07786000488** | Website: www.rtwfencingclub.com

Armoury fees

For club members only

Weapon check (test only – weight, tip legality, travel and electrical resistance test) **No charge**

Tip (dismantled, cleaned, adjusted and left legal) **£2.00**

Tip replacement parts

(supply, fit & test)

Grub screws **£1.00**

Pressure spring **£1.00**

Contact spring **£1.00**

Tip – complete

(supply, fit & test)

LP Standard **£5.00**

FIE GT2 **£7.00**

Epee re-wire

Supply & fit new wire using existing barrel & tip if possible **£10.00**

Supply & fit new wire, new barrel & tip if necessary **£15.00**

Notes:

- Re-wires can usually be completed between club sessions.
- Additional weapon maintenance by arrangement.
- All monies go into club funds.

Rental costs

There is now a cost for using club wires and weapons at external competitions:

Wires (each) **£1.00**

Weapons (each) **£2.00**

Rentals must be agreed with Paul Beasley (who will make a note of the items rented and take the money).