



## Take your skills off-piste

The cocoa season - that fleeting, bittersweet time when the streets are paved with chocolate chunks and the hedges are filled with Easter eggs - is upon us once again. We'd like to take this seasonal opportunity to rubbish the claim that fencing has no use in the modern world. Our sport relies upon fast, light movements, and it's precisely these qualities - along with going arm first when lunging and flèching - that will enable you to snag more chocolate at your local Easter egg hunt. So go ahead and do yourself proud - then return to training next term a little heavier, perhaps, but a lot more motivated.

Next term, besides our regular classes, we'll also be offering two new beginners courses. The **Junior beginner** course will start on Monday 29th April at 6.30pm and run for 10 weeks. The **Adult & Teen beginner** course will start on Thursday 2nd May at 7pm 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.

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 continue to play a role in the Sunday classes, helped by Paul, Chris and Don. Last term, *If you were a junior beginner on Sundays last term*, you'll still be coached by Chris this term, working towards your first grading and joining the Tier 1 fencers for part of your training from time to time. On weekdays, Paul will lead the sessions, assisted by Chris. Additionally, Chris offers private lessons on Mondays, Thursdays and Sundays, at the rate of £5 per 15-20 minutes; Paul hopes to return to private lesson duty by early July.

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 refereeing, cleaning the floor, or packing away. We salute you!

## Dates & times

### **Sundays**

**10-1130am** Juniors - intermediate & advanced group lessons  
**1130am-1pm** Teens & Adults private lessons, & electric fencing bouts  
**Start:** 28th Apr **End:** 14th July  
Note: no club 26th May (half term)

### **Mondays**

**630-730pm** New Juniors course  
**7-8pm** Juniors intermediate & advanced group lessons  
**8-930pm** Teens & Adults  
**Start:** 29th Apr **End:** 15th July  
Note: no club on 6th May (bank holiday) & 27th May (half term)

### **Thursdays**

**7-8pm** Adult & Teen beginners course  
**8-930pm** Intermediate and experienced Teens and Adults  
**Start:** 2nd May **End:** 18th July  
Note: no club on 30th May (half term)

## Fees

### Sundays (11)

**Members** (junior, teen & adult) £110.00  
**Members** (+ private lesson) £165.00

### Mondays (10)

**Junior beginners course** £80.00  
**Junior inters & advanced** £90.00

### Weekdays

#### **Teen & Adult members**

(one session per week) £90.00  
(+ 1 private lesson p/w) £140.00

#### **Teen & Adult members**

(two sessions per week) £120.00  
(+ 1 private lesson p/w) £170.00

### Thursdays (11)

**Teen & Adult beginners** £99  
**Adult members** *see above*

**Monday/Thursday visitors fee** £9.00

(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

For those of you who are new to the Sunday sessions, we run three **electric junior competitions** during the term – divided into Tier 1 and 2 (intermediate) and 3 (advanced). The format is ‘poule unique’ (everyone fences everyone else) and the scores are recorded on our competition board. A running ranking list will be posted on the club’s notice board after each of the three rounds, and the overall result collated at the end of term. The top three fencers in each tier will receive a fantastic prize. **Tier 1 & 2** competitions will take place on 12th May, 9th June and 30th June; and **Tier 3** competitions will take place on 19th May, 16th June and 7th July.

Our next **TWIST** event – in which club fencers take on fencers from schools and other clubs – will take place on Saturday 11th May. Males and females will fence separately, with team fencing in the morning and individual fencing in the afternoon. Ask Paul for details.

On 22nd June, our second **Club Championship** for juniors and seniors will take place, which pits fencers from Mondays, Thursdays and Sundays against each other. The Prof will email the details in due course.

Finally, later in the year our popular **TWIT** (Tunbridge Wells Invitational Team) event will return, at which RTWFC fencers unite to compete against other club teams from the South East and beyond. Set up originally by Simon Pink, the TWIT is a hugely enjoyable day of fencing for teens and adults. Details to follow.

The club events are great preparation for **external competitions**, such as county, regional and national-level events – some of which take place within an hour of Tunbridge Wells. Please ask the club coaches for information, or visit [www.britishfencing.com](http://www.britishfencing.com).

### Contact details etc

Address: **Army Reserve Centre, St John’s Road, Tunbridge Wells, TN4 9UU** | Course enquiries: [rtwfencingclub@gmail.com](mailto:rtwfencingclub@gmail.com)  
Attendance: **Can’t make it on a Monday or Thursday? Text Paul on 07786000488** | Website: [www.rtwfencingclub.com](http://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 a cost for using club wires and weapons at external comps:**

**Wires** (each) **£1.00**

**Weapons** (each) **£2.00**

Rentals must be agreed with Paul Beasley. Breakages & faults that occur at external competitions will be subject to a charge (50% of cost of repair/replacement).