

MidSouth School Age Fencing Classes Newsletter No. 2

Fencing classes are now well under way with both returning students and new fencers making progress with their fencing skills.

This newsletter is let you know about the other activities that are coming up in Christchurch and further afield that your child/ children can be involved in as a fencing student.

The fencing clubs in Christchurch run competitions that are held in the weekends most often on a Saturday but sometimes on a Sunday or a longer competition that may run over 2 days. Some competitions are fun events and designed for everyone to have a go, others are to target different age or experience of fencers to fence each other. Regional or national competitions are held in Christchurch and other major New Zealand Cities(Auckland, Wellington and Dunedin) during a fencing session and can be attended by fencers. Your coach will be able to tell you whether your child is ready to participate at regional or national level competitions. If you can't talk to a coach after/ before a class then you can email the administrator who will get the information you need.

If your child needs to hire gear to fence in they are able to do this. Cost is \$5 per competition

Upcoming Competitions:

1. **Autumn Cup:** Sunday 13th March. Foil registration is at 11am, Epee 2.30pm, venue: Fencing Institute. This competition is an Open competition which means it is a competition fenced in the senior grade(i.e.: adults), secondary school fencers can fence in this competition. (ie: older fencers of the Wednesday Class). Being an affiliated fencer means that the points you get from entering this competition will count to your New Zealand ranking. Cost: \$15 per weapon
2. **Olga Jekyll Foil Teams Event:** Saturday 19th March. Registration times and full information is on the attached sheet. This is a fun competition run by United fencing club where registered fencers who come are put into teams of 3 and fence together against other teams. It is open to all ages. If your child has not been in a competition before or is of primary or intermediate age this will be a great competition for them to experience some fencing. To register you need to fill in the attached form and have your child return this to their coach before 17th March so that we can register them officially for this competition. The coaches will attend with the fencers.

3. MidSouth U15 & U17 Championships: Saturday & Sunday 2nd , 3rd April. This competition is for experienced young fencers to pit themselves against fencers from their own class, other clubs and fencers from outside Christchurch. This competition will help train your child in competition techniques and will also let them experience a world of fencing that leads to elite sportsman level for those who want to set their goals high. It is also a competition that should be attended by all those who want to compete at the National U15 & U17 Championships. All fencers must be affiliated to fence in this competition.

The information has already been circulated to you both in hard copy and via email. Early bird registration closes on 19th March for this competition [Entry Form](#)

4. National U15 & U17 Championships: This is being held in Auckland at Massey High School. 23rd, 24th & 25th April. Some details are available via Facebook on the Fencing North Facebook page. We will update you as more details become available.

To keep up with what is happening with fencing in the region we have multiple avenues available. These are listed below...

- Fencing Class Newsletters
- Fencing Class Emails
- MidSouth Facebook page: The name of the page is Fencing MidSouth. You can search it and then like it so that you can easily see posts and events listed
- MidSouth Website: <http://www.fencingmidsouth.org.nz/>
- Becoming an affiliated fencer- there will be more information about this out in the next week
- Your coaches
- Fencing MidSouth School Fencing Administrator

As a final note: Saturday fitness for the older students is now well under way at the sports field behind the tennis courts next to Burnside High. The new start time is 9am. Let Sheldon, Andreas or Brittany know if you want to participate in this session