

# MEMBERS CONSTITUTION

Please note that by attending any Russell Swords classes you agree to abide by the members constitution. This is in place to ensure that everyone is able to enjoy the sport in a pleasant and safe environment.

## 1. Membership and Insurance

All fencers using metal weapons must be insured through the British Fencing Association. It is the member's responsibility to ensure this is up to date and of an appropriate level.

## 2. Equipment

All fencers must use appropriate equipment when fencing. All personal kit should meet the minimum safety standard set by the BFA. It is the member's responsibility to ensure their equipment is suitable and correctly worn.

Club equipment is available to members. This must be treated with respect and care. Any damage resulting from improper use must be paid for by the fencer responsible.

Members are responsible for their personal equipment. They are free to lend or withhold items of their equipment from other members. The club is not responsible for any item/s of personal kit damaged.

## 3. Fees

Membership fees are to be paid on time either on the night or via standing order. The club may apply back-fees to members who consistently fail to pay.

## 4. Attendance & Participation

Members are expected to arrive early enough to begin the session on time. Consistently arriving late without reasonable explanation is not acceptable.

Warm-ups and footwork sessions are mandatory - Should members not want to participate they need to speak with the coach in charge before the session and explain their decision.

## 5. Club Rules

All members are required to obey the club rules:

- Always show respect to the coaching team and other volunteers
- Always salute and shake hands
- Always use the equipment in a safe and responsible manner
- No threatening behaviour
- No swearing
- No unsportsmanlike behaviour
- No cheating or arguing with the referee
- Comply with all BFA rules and regulations

Failure to obey these rules may result in disciplinary measures (verbal warning, coaching bar, short term ban) or permanent exclusion from the club. These are applied at the discretion of the coaching team and/or committee.

## **6. Younger Members**

Parents/Guardians should be aware that coaches are not responsible for their children before the session starts, or after it concludes and so should be prompt with the dropping off and collection of their children.

Parents are responsible for informing coaches of any relevant physical, mental or behavioural needs their child may have.

Parents should note that fencing is a combat sport and so minor injuries/bruising should be anticipated on occasion - As with other activities e.g. rugby, martial arts, hockey.

## **7. Medical Conditions**

Members are responsible for informing coaches of any conditions that may affect them during training. Coaches reserve the right to refuse participation should they consider it to be unsafe. Should members chose to participate they take full responsibility for their own health and well-being.

## **8. Clearing the Hall**

All members are expected to help pack up and clear the hall after training.