

NSWFA Member Bulletin

May/June 2018

OUR GIRLS BRING BACK THE GOLD FROM ADELAIDE

NSW fencers won gold in each women's weapon at the Robyn Chaplin AFC#2 tournament in Adelaide...and in the Australian Under 23 Foil Championships.

Our gold winners were Sam Auty in Open Women's Sabre, Violet Hull in Open Women's Foil and Lisa Gemmell in Open Women's Epee.



Sian Webster (silver), Sam Auty (gold) and Thi Nguyen (bronze) – Open Women's Sabre, AFC#3



Lisa Gemmell triumphed in Open Women's Epee



Violet Hull prevailed over a strong field in the AFC#2 Open Women's Foil with Freya Clarke picking up bronze.

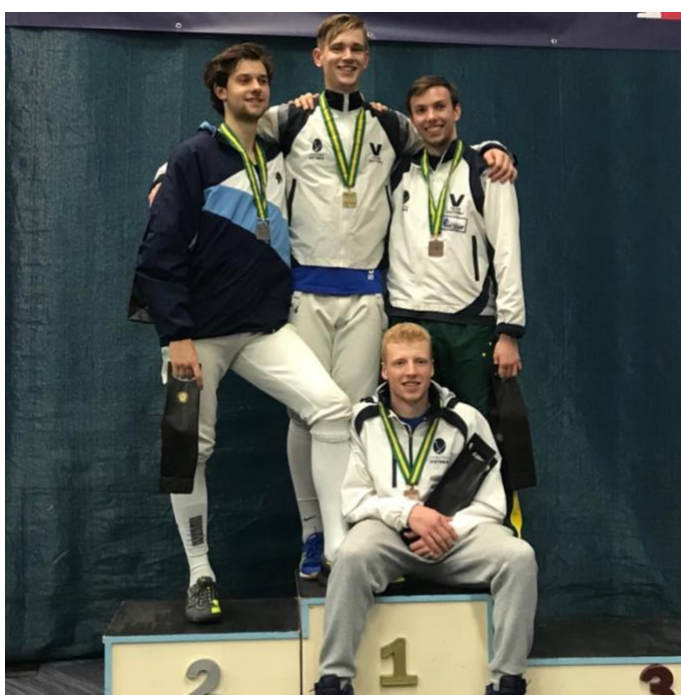
SUCCESS TOO FOR OUR YOUNG WOMEN IN THE U23 WOMEN'S FOIL CHAMPIONSHIPS



One Two – Freya wins gold and Violet silver in the U23 Australian Women's Foil Championships.



Alexandre Douglas chipped in a gold for Open Men's Sabre to make it four golds for NSW from the six on offer. Sean Andrews and Jack Snell collected bronze in a strong showing for NSW with 6 in the top 8.



Sholto Douglas wins silver in Open Men's Foil

OUR VETERANS ALSO CAME HOME WITH GOLD

- Du Min Yi in Veteran Women's Sabre with Harriet Jordan taking silver;
- Julia Lyaschenko in Veteran Women's Foil with Annabelle Ballard the 60+ winner;
- Andrey Tyshchenko in Veteran Men's Foil and Richard Purdie bronze and 60+ winner;
- Davide Wheeler in Veteran Men's Sabre;
- Sarah Osvath won silver and gold +50 and Melissa Yeung bronze in Veteran Women's Epee while Annabelle Ballard won gold 60+.



80 YEARS OF SERVICE TO FENCING

The distinguished service to fencing of Sally and Edmond Kopiec was recognised at the AGM when both were made Honorary Members of NSWFA.

Both Sally and Edmond have devoted 40 years to the Penrith Academy and NSW Fencing.

Together they have built Penrith Academy into one of the most successful fencing clubs in Australia with over 70 members, its own venue and host of the annual Bill Gal tournament.

Each has held executive positions with NSWFA and each actively encouraged wheelchair fencing as coaches and referees.

Nandy Susic, Pam Zopf, Darryl Mason, Rene Kopiec and Duncan Fairweather spoke of the outstanding contribution that Sally and Edmond have made to fencing in NSW and their leadership of the Penrith Fencing Academy over 40 years.

Rene said his parents regarded the club as their big family and they had helped many young club members cope with issues in their personal lives.



Sally and Edmond Kopiec with their Honorary Member certificates presented by NSWFA President Kaye Mahoney and flanked by Nigel Cotman, Simon Capon, Dennis Hely, Michael Howard, Nandy Susic, Pam Zopf and Peter Witkop.

In response, Edmond described fencing as “a beautiful sport” that needed to be nurtured and be more exposed to the wider community. Sally recalled that she was one of the first female coaches and at that time women coaches in sport were not respected. She referred to the important role of coaches in teaching beginners in correct technique. “If you don’t teach the basics properly, they will never succeed. That’s where it all starts.”

The appointment of Sally and Edmond as Honorary Members was warmly applauded.

ENTRIES OPEN FOR AUSTRALIAN SENIOR SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIPS

NSWFA is hosting the 2018 Australian Senior Schools Championships on the weekend of 28-29 July. This is the first time the national schools competition is being held in Sydney – previously they have been in Brisbane – and we are hoping for a strong field from NSW and other States.

First round nominations are now open. Schools have been invited to send in their nominations. Individuals who don't have organised fencing at their school can also nominate themselves. If you want to compete in the national schools competition, send an email to secretary@nswfencing.org.au giving name/school/weapon.

Acceptance of nominations is dependent on the overall number of nominations from around Australia and will be advised by 24 June.

Fencers can nominate for more than one weapon.

The Australian Schools Senior Individual and Team Championships are open to all secondary students. The Intermediate Championships are open to students up to and including the third year of secondary and will be held later on 25-26 July.

There's more information on the NSWFA and AFF websites.

NEXT GLADIATOR TOUR

Entries are now open for the next NSW Gladiators Tour to Melbourne for the Joseph D'Onofrio Victoria Challenge on 18-19 August. All details are in the poster at the end of this bulletin.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

At the AGM, Ross Taylor and Angie Zhao were elected to the vacancies created by the retirement of Alex Andre and Ian Bofinger. In her President's Report, Kaye Mahoney thanked Alex and Ian for their service. She noted the initiatives that Alex had taken to develop fencing opportunities for young people, including the Koala Challenge/Friendship Cup event that has grown over the past seven years to be a leading competition for fencers under 13 in Asia; the introduction of the Mini Series and Gladiator Tours. While Alex has stepped down from the Board, she will continue to be involved in the development of fencing for young people.



Ross Taylor is a finance professional who has worked in London, Singapore and Sydney. He became interested in fencing when, as he puts it, his eldest son became “seriously addicted to fencing”. Ross is performing the DT role at school competitions and his wife Kerry is also an active volunteer.



Ange Zhao is a successful businesswoman and founder of the Hills Athletic Fencing Club. She has experience in the development, management and marketing of sport, a director of The Swing Academy and the franchisee owner of Ready Steady Go Kids for the Castle Hill and Carlingford areas. Ange is passionate about fencing. Here she is with club member Zara and her son Marcus.



Jing Shang Glasson has accepted the Board's invitation for her to join the Board as an Appointed Director with special skills in marketing and commerce. Jing has effectively promoted fencing in Shanghai and her marketing skills will be an asset to NSWFA. Both of her children – Joseph and Sophia – are fencers.

CIAO SIMONE



NSWFA welcomes **Simone Mazzoni** from Club Scherma in Rome who is visiting Australia. While he is here, Simone will be helping Antonio Signorello and the coaching team at the NSW Fencing Centre. While coaching at Club Scherma, Simone completed his studies in Sports Management. He is a 3-weapon coach who specializes in foil. In his fencing day, Simone was a member of the Italian U20 National Team.

FENCING ON THE 'TODAY' SHOW



Many of our young fencers were up early before school to appear on Channel 9's 'TODAY' show which crossed live frequently during the morning to the NSW Fencing Centre where weather reporter **Natalia Cooper** tried her hand at fencing. After being kitted out by Jeff Hardge, Natalia fenced with John Tian, interviewed Antonio Signorello and watched young school fencers in action.

Thanks to Caitlin Fox-Harding for organizing a great promotion of fencing to a wide audience.

UPCOMING COMPS

Date	Competition	
16 June	Roberta Nutt Shield - Schools Championships	U16 Boy's Foil Div2
17 June	NSW Cadet (U17) Championships	Men's & Women's Foil, Epee, Sabre
23 June	Roberta Nutt Shield – Schools Championships	U14 Boy's Foil Div 2
24 June	Mini Series #4	U8-10-12 Sabre, U14 Foil
1 July	Mini Series #4	U8-U10-U12 Foil, U10-U12 Mixed Epee, U14 Sabre
7 & 8 July	Bill Gal Tournament	Penrith
11 – 15 July	Australian U15/Cadet Championships	Individuals & Teams – see AFF website
28 – 29 July	Australian Senior Individual & Teams Championships	

For State competitions enter online at: <http://www.nswfencing.org.au/>

WHERE DO FENCERS GO AFTER THEIR LAST SALUTE?



WHERE ELSE?

2018 Bill Gal
Annual Fencing Tournament

SATURDAY 7TH JULY
9.00am: Junior Electric Foil (10 to 15 years of age)
12pm: Ladies epee*
12.30pm: Mens epee*
4pm: Master Tournament (over 35 epee)
6.30pm: Social Club Dinner

SUNDAY 8TH JULY
9am: Men's Electric Foil*
9am: Ladies Electric Foil*
2pm: Men's & Ladies Novice Sabre*

**Entrants to be 14yrs and over*

SOCIAL CLUB DINNER
Penrith Academy of Fencing invites all fencers and friends to join together for a social evening. Meals and Drinks can be purchased at the venue.

VENUE: O'DONOGHUE IRISH PUB
Front Dining Room.
99 Great Western Highway,
Emu Plains NSW
Commence 6.30pm onwards

\$20 fee for the first entry
Additional entries are \$10 each
Registration for each event will take place 15 minutes prior to each event starting

Entrants must be registered with the NSW Fencing Association or their state association

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE PENRITH ACADEMY OF FENCING ON 02 4751 2314
OR EMAIL: PENRITHFENCING@GMAIL.COM • Unit 5, 49-51 Regentville Rd, Jamisontown**

[Download BILL GAL FLYER](#)



Join Us Now! NSW Gladiator Tour

2018 Australian Minime Circuit - Joseph D'Onofrio
Victoria Challenge
Melbourne, Victoria

NSW Fencing Association is organizing a tour to Melbourne for the
2018 Vic Challenge

Fencers will enter this event through NSWFA.

A minimal levy will be introduced as NSW aims to send 1 – 3 NSW Coaches to assist
Fencers at the Championships and also to assist with travel organization.

Vic Challenge U/14 - FOIL, EPEE and SABRE