

NEW SOUTH WALES
fencing



NSWFA MEMBER BULLETIN #2

FEBRUARY 2022

Passion Excellence Community



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Community,

After a long summer holiday, all clubs were back to action in early Feb and we have seen a lot of old and new friends at the U15 Olympic Cup and Season Opener for open and veteran categories. I met with some new members during the competition who came back to fencing after decades of pause. Again, another example of a lifelong sport for all. Never too late to start or get back to the game.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Historic international results
- Celebrating our women in fencing
- Schools Competition
- Go West!
- President's Report
- Honorary Member

In early Feb, Duncan and I embarked on a tour to visit Penrith and Mountains Fencing Clubs. It has been very helpful to meet coaches, officials and fencers out there. A few weeks later it was wonderful for us to welcome a few teen and young fencers from Mountains Fencing Club, some of them joining the state competition for the first time. Bravo!

The end of Feb finishes strong with our Sabre fencer Veronika Vasileva winning the historical Silver in Asian Junior Championship and Bronze in Asian Cadet Championship in Tashkent Uzbekistan! Three Junior Men's Foil fencers also joined the AFF tour to Sabadell for the FIE Junior World Cup after two years' suspension.

On 6 March, we hosted our AGM at the Centre and Niki Whelan and John Frew were elected to the Board. The motion to change our Covid proof of vaccination policy, which received a lot of attention in the community, received 2 votes in favour and 19 against without the need to count proxy forms. This is also why you are reading a newsletter arriving a bit late.

March is a busy month in our calendar and we wish all fencers competing over the four weekends the best luck! Enjoy your fencing!

Jing Shang
President

february



2022 Junior Champions

The first NSW competition of the year produced a new crop of Junior State Champions.



- Gaia Hardge – Women’s Sabre
- Genevieve Janse Van Rensburg – Women’s Epee
- Sophia Glasson – Women’s Foil
- Poom Palakawongse – Men’s Sabre
- Roshan Chandran (South Australia) – Men’s Epee
- Joseph Glasson – Men’s Foil

Congratulations all and good luck at the Australian Junior Champs in Melbourne in May.



INTERNATIONAL



VV – WOW!

What a performance!

Veronika Vasileva (16) earns a bronze medal in sabre at the **Asian Cadet Championships** in Tashkent then just days later goes one better in the **Asian Junior Championships** to win silver. A stunning result for an Australian against very tough opposition at the Asian champs.

Australian and NSW Sabre coach Antonio Signorello describes her “forever shining silver” as an “extraordinary performance and even more incredible result – an unprecedented double in Australian fencing history.”

A valiant effort Veronika. Congratulations to your coach, Alex Andre. And to the Vasileva family for your steadfast support.



At the **Junior World Cup** in Sabadell, Spain, Joseph Glasson qualified from poules with 4V2D to earn a bye, win his first DE and make the 64, finishing 55 in a strong field. Joseph then joined Julian Lim, Daniel Mautner and Thomas Nguyen in the teams’ event, losing 44-40 to Sweden.



Women in Fencing Celebrated

As part of NSW Women's Week we are profiling women and girls in fencing with some **inspiring stories** about what attracts them to fencing and keeps them in love with our sport.

The first to tell her story on Facebook was Annabelle Ballard, a fencing mum who picked up a foil herself 20 years ago and built a successful fencing career, winning a World Veteran Championship silver medal. Now she has her heart set on gold.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for more stories - we'll run them all in the next bulletin.



NSW Women's Week

→fencing 

Celebrate Women & Girls in Fencing

This week, we will share a few stories of women and girls in our community. Stay tuned.

Connect

Engage

Empower

#ADVANCEWITHHER





Schools In

The 2022 NSW Schools Program kicks off on 26 March and runs for 12 Saturdays through this year. The timetable has been simplified and arranged to finish each event on one day.

There'll be two days of individual competition and two days of team in each weapon-age category.

The timetable has been structured to give Mini Novice (Yr 5 & 6) and Novice (Yr 7 & 8) regular format competitions to improve their competitive experience. And there'll be a new Roberta Nutt trophy just for girls.



All schools fencers must be Junior Registered or Junior Affiliated members of NSWFA. Most school fencers will be Junior Registered (\$55).

<https://nswfencing.org.au/home1/register/>

If you go to a school where fencing is a regular sport, the school will look after your competition entries. You don't need to enter yourself.

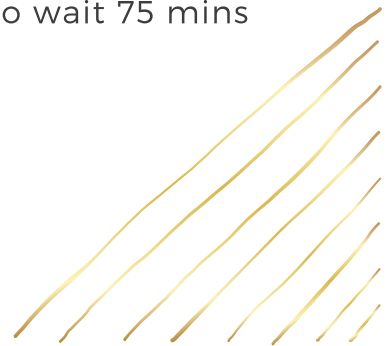
If you don't go to a fencing school you can still take part - the School Championships are open to all school-age fencers. First, sign up as a Junior Registered member of NSWFA, as above, then select the school comp you want to enter. Note: After you have registered as a member, you need to wait 75 mins before you enter for the competition.

Primary fencers, click here:

> REGISTER NOW

Y7-8 fencers, click her:

> REGISTER NOW



Please note that the NSW ActiveKids vouchers will not be available for the Schools Championships.

More information for school fencers and parents, including the 2022 Schools Calendar, is on the [Schools page](#) of the NSWFA website.

If you have any queries, please check first with your schools fencing teacher or coach.



Australian Schools Championships

The NSW Schools Championships are the qualifying event for the Australian Schools Championships.

Australian Junior Schools Championships (first 3 years of secondary) 18-19 June in Canberra.

Australian Senior Schools Championships 23 - 24 July in Sydney.

We'll let you know whether selection will be necessary for these events, based on participation numbers.



Calendar Changes

Please note we have some **calendar changes** regarding 2 NSW State Championships:

U15 State Championships is now on Sunday, **5 June**

Cadet State Championships is now on Sunday, **26 June**

Please find the link to our calendar [here](#)



Things are Going Well Out West!

Jing Shang and Duncan Fairweather headed west to visit first the Penrith Fencing Academy and then Mountains Fencing Club in February.

At Penrith, they discussed the challenges facing outer metro and regional fencing with Sally and Eddie Kopiec who founded the club over 30 years ago and are both NSWFA Honorary Members. Coaches Rene Kopiec and Darryl Mason were putting young fencers through their paces on a very hot day.

Up the mountain at Lawson, they met at the local pub for a cooling beer with Mountains FC President Alessandra Wollaston and other club leaders including club secretary Andrew Yip, community engagement officer & coach Imogen Waugh, member protection officer Tobias Iddles, athlete representative Dan Carter and coach Jo Williams. Among the topics discussed, the potential to introduce fencing to local high schools.

Later, at a club training session, Jing talked to fencers about NSWFA plans for the future, including rejuvenating regional competitions. Both Jing and Duncan were impressed by the young fencers' sense of pride in their club and the care and respect they showed for each other.

They intend to visit as many other clubs as possible this year.





Covid Update



From 25 February you are no longer be required to check into the NSW Fencing Centre via QR code. Fencers, referees and coaches won't have to wear face masks while actively training or competing. Otherwise, face masks must continue to be worn if you are not exercising.

Capacity limits no longer apply but social distancing should be followed. At State competitions, one parent per fencing family will be able to attend but not for the very busy school competitions.

Proof of vaccination will continue to be required. At the AGM last weekend, a proposal to allow PCR or RAT test results was not supported by members. The Covid rules are kept under review and may be changed at any time. Thank you for your co-operation.

Hey Coaches – Check Your Credentials

Quite a few NSW coaches are currently not on the AFF list of accredited coaches. In most cases, it's because one of their credentials has lapsed, e.g. a Working With Children Check or First Aid certificate.

Please check your accreditation status on the AFF Portal and bring it up to date.





President's Report

Delivering her report to the AGM on 6 March, Jing Shang focused on the future.

“While there still might be a few bumps ahead, our bold goal is reach pre-Covid levels of participation by the end of this year and grow strongly from there.”

Jing noted that the Board is finalising a 10 year strategic plan to take NSWFA to the 2032 Olympics and beyond. The plan will be released for community consultation soon.

She emphasised that the plan is not a static document.

“We will execute the plan, keep it under review and make adjustments along the way. The plan will guide the board in making sound decisions and to align our efforts with the interests of clubs, coaches, fencers and their families.”

Jing reported the Board had looked with a fresh eye at improving its governance protocols and developed a new member protection and child safeguarding framework with expert advice.

“Building a safeguarding culture is a top priority.”

She noted that even with reduced national competitions, NSW produced 14 national champions in 2021 and the Cyclone Cup is still ours. She applauded the three NSW fencers – Violet Hull, Sholto and Alexandre Douglas – who showed tremendous resilience in travelling to Tashkent in the middle of the pandemic and overcoming so many obstacles to get there.

Honorary Membership

Duncan Fairweather was appointed an Honorary Member in appreciation for his 15 years of service on the Board as Director, President, Vice President and Secretary.



THANK
YOU

Board Changes

At the AGM on 6 March, members elected Niki Whelan to the Board, recognising her tireless voluntary work for fencing and her potential to help promote and help run our sport. Congratulations Niki!

Our Regional Director, John Frew, was elected to a full 4-year term having been on the Board as an appointed director for the past year.



Niki Whelan



John Frew



NSW School Championships - 2022

Version 3 - 1 March 2022

Date	Event	Venue	Entry Close Times						Notes	
			MF	WF	ME	WE	MS	WS		
Fri, 28 Jan 2022	School Term #1 Begins									
Sat, 26 Mar 2022	School #1		NSWFC	10:00	10:00				24 Fencers Per School	
	Mini Novice Foil (Primary)			7:45	7:45					
	Intermediate Foil School Championships									
Sat, 2 Apr 2022	School #2		NSWFC	10:00	10:00				24 Fencers Per School	
	Novice Foil (Yr 7 & 8)			7:45	7:45					
	Senior Foil School Championships									
Fri, 8 Apr 2022	School Holidays Begin									
to	Easter Holidays									
Mon, 25 Apr 2022	Anzac Day									
Tue, 26 Apr 2022	School Term #2 Begins									
Sat, 30 Apr 2022	School #3		NSWFC			10:00	10:00		24 Fencers Per School	
	Mini Novice Epee (Primary)							10:00		10:00
	Mini Novice Sabre (Primary)					8:00	8:00			
	Intermediate Epee School Championships							8:00		8:00
	Intermediate Sabre School Championships									
Sun, 8 May 2022	School Term #2 Begins									
Sat, 7 May 2022	School #4		NSWFC			10:00	10:00		24 Fencers Per School	
	Novice Epee (Yr 7 & 8)							10:00		10:00
	Novice Sabre (Yr 7 & 8)					8:00	8:00			
	Senior Epee School Championships							8:00		8:00
	Senior Sabre School Championships									
Sat, 14 May 2022	School #5		NSWFC			10:00	10:00		24 Fencers Per School	
	Roberta Nutt Shield Intermediate Epee			7:45	7:45					
	Roberta Nutt Shield Intermediate Foil							9:30		9:30
	Roberta Nutt Shield Intermediate Sabre									
Sat, 21 May 2022	School #6		NSWFC			10:00	10:00		24 Fencers Per School	
	Roberta Nutt Shield Senior Epee			7:45	7:45					
	Roberta Nutt Shield Senior Foil							9:30		9:30
	Roberta Nutt Shield Senior Sabre									
Sat, 28 May 2022	School #7		NSWFC			10:00	10:00		4 Teams Per School only	
	Intermediate AJ Rae & RA White Epee Teams			7:45	7:45					
	Intermediate AJ Rae & RA White Foil Teams							9:30		9:30
	Intermediate AJ Rae & RA White Sabre Teams									
Sat, 4 Jun 2022	School #8		NSWFC			10:00	10:00		4 Teams Per School only	
	Senior AJ Rae & RA White Epee Teams			7:45	7:45					
	Senior AJ Rae & RA White Foil Teams							9:30		9:30
	Senior AJ Rae & RA White Sabre Teams									
18.06.2022	to	19.06.2022	2022 Intermediate School National Championships						Canberra, ACT	
Sat, 18 Jun 2022	School #9		NSWFC	8:00	8:00				4 Teams Per School only	
	Mini Novice Foil (Primary) School Teams Championships					10:00	10:00			
	Mini Novice Epee (Primary) School Team Championships							9:30		9:30
	Mini Novice Sabre (Primary) School Team Championships			8:00	8:00					
	Novice Foil (Yr 7 & 8) School Teams Championships					10:00	10:00			
	Novice Epee (Yr 7 & 8) School Team Championships							9:30		9:30
Sat, 25 Jun 2022	School #10		NSWFC	7:45	7:45				4 Teams Per School only	
Intermediate Foil School Teams Championships										
Mon, 4 Jul 2022	School Holidays Begin									
Mon, 18 Jul 2022	School Term #3 Begins									
23.07.2022	to	24.07.2022	2022 Senior School National Championships						Sydney, NSW	
Sat, 30 Jul 2022	School #11		NSWFC	7:45	7:45				4 Teams Per School only	
	Senior Foil School Teams Championships									
Sat, 6 Aug 2022	School #12		NSWFC			10:00	10:00		4 Teams Per School only	
	Intermediate Epee School Team Championships							10:00		10:00
	Intermediate Sabre School Team Championships					8:00	8:00			
	Senior Epee School Team Championships							8:00		8:00
	Senior Sabre School Team Championships									
Fri, 23 Sep 2022	School Holidays Begin									



SUNDAY 27TH MARCH 2022 SYDNEY MIXED CADET CIRCUIT

2022 Sydney Mixed Cadet Circuit #1

NSW Fencing Association presents 2022 Sydney Cadet Circuit. These events have been formatted as “mixed” circuit competitions, similar to the European / Asian Cadet Circuit. Fencers will complete a double round of poules, then Direct Elimination; including “Fencing off” for 3rd place.

Fencers require 2022 Junior Affiliation with NSW Fencing Association
This a suitable development competition for Fencer’s from 2008 - 2005

Fencers 12 + required to be fully vaccinated and will need to provide a certificate.

Competition Format:

- Mixed
- Double round of poules
- Direct elimination
- Fence for 3rd place

Registrations links can be found here:

<https://www.registernow.com.au/secure/Register.aspx?E=45880>

Sunday 27th March

Cadet Circuit #1

All weapons

9:00am

Epee, Foil & Sabre

A Mixed Cadet
Competition

NSW Fencing
Association

2022

Fencer’s must be Junior
Affiliated

2022 AUSTRALIAN MINIME CALENDAR

John Fethers Golden Foil

(U9, U11, U13, U15 & U20 **Foil only**)

Melbourne 10th April

Koala Mini Challenge

(U8, U10, U12 & U14 Epee, Foil & Sabre)

Sydney 6th – 10th July

Note: Directly after the AFF U15 & Cadet Nationals

Joseph D'Onofrio Challenge

(U10, U12 & U14 Epee, Foil & Sabre)

Melbourne 13th – 14th August

Note: In conjunction with AFF AYC #3 U15 tournament

Neil Hick Victorian Epee Shield

(U11, U13, U15 & U20 **Epee only**)

Melbourne 11th September

Sydney International Grand Prix

(U8, U10, U12 & U14 Epee, Foil & Sabre)

Sydney 26th – 30th September

Norse Beach Sabre Championships

(U8, U10, U12 & Cadet **Sabre only**)

Sydney 4th December

Registration Entry Links can be found here:

<https://fencingvictoria.org.au>

<https://nswfencing.org.au>

MINIME AGE
COMPETITIONS

ENTRIES
THROUGH
STATE
ASSOCIATION
WEBSITE

FENCING
VICTORIA &
NSW FENCING
ASSOCIATION

Equipment
Standard Applied

FENCER'S
MUST BE
MEMBERS OF
THEIR HOME
STATE FOR
2022

2022 AUSTRALIAN MINIME CALENDAR

2022 John Fethers Golden Foil
Melbourne, Victoria

Sunday 10th April

**U9, U11, U13, U15
and Junior Foil**

U13 Foil - 8:45 AM rollcall for
9:00 AM start

U9 Foil - 9:00 AM rollcall for
9:15 AM start

U20 Foil - 9:15 AM rollcall for
9:30 AM start

U15 Foil - 12:00 PM rollcall for
12:15 PM start

U11 Foil - 12:15 PM rollcall for
12:30 PM start

Note:

- Entry fee \$29.00

- Fencing Victoria equipment standards

<https://fencingvictoria.org.au/equipment-reqts/>

Registration Entry Links can be found shortly here:

<https://fencingvictoria.org.au>

MINIME AGE
COMPETITIONS

ENTRIES
THROUGH
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FENCING
VICTORIA

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FENCER'S
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THEIR HOME
STATE FOR
2022



11TH – 14TH APRIL 2022

NSW Autumn Holiday Fencing Camp

This NSW Fencing Association Holiday Fencing Camp is suitable for School Fencers of all ages and levels, including complete beginners. From the age of 8+ to 15

- Fencers must be 2022 Junior Registered or Junior Affiliated
- The Camp will include; games, agility, speed and coordination exercises, fencing footwork, technical and tactical drills, group lessons, plus lots of Fencing

Daily sessions 9:30am – 3:30pm

\$90 – 1 day \$170 – 2 days \$250 – 3 days \$330 – 4 days

Fencers must bring any and all Fencing equipment, packed lunch and drinks. Wear suitable clothing for fitness training and warm up.

Registration:

<https://www.registernow.com.au/secure/Register.aspx?E=46364>

11th – 14th April

4 Day Fencing Camp

ALL Levels

Complete Beginners -
School Aged Fencers

Epee & Foil

+ Complete
Beginner's

9:30 – 3:30 Daily

NSW Fencing Association

Building 2, Level 1

190 Bourke Road

Alexandria

*Fencing equipment is
included for complete
beginners*



SUNDAY 24TH APRIL
**2022 PRESIDENTS OPEN
CUP**

**NSW State Open Competition &
2022 Veteran Challenge #2**

NSW Fencing Association presents....
The 2022 Presidents Open Cup for all weapons
Also includes the NSW Veteran circuit – “Veteran Challenge”.

Open and Veteran individual events in Epee, Foil and Sabre
Perfect preparation for AFC #2 in Brisbane!!

Fencer’s will require 2022 Junior & Senior Affiliation
Please note the equipment standard required in updated
NSWFA Policy

Entry Link:

<https://www.registernow.com.au/secure/Register.aspx?E=46721>

Sunday 24th April

2022 Season Opener

Open

Epee, Foil & Sabre

2022 Veteran Challenge

#2

Veteran

Epee, Foil & Sabre

Entry close 6:00pm

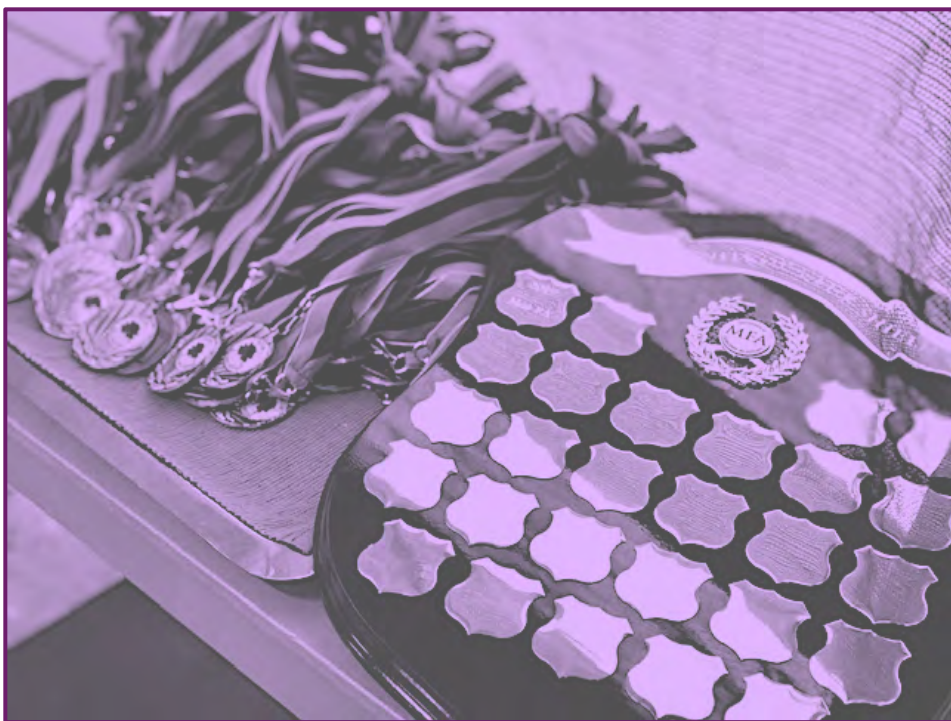
Friday 22nd April

NSW Fencing
Association

2022

Fencers must be
Junior or Senior

Affiliated



MINI SERIES #2 15TH & 22ND MAY

2022 PETER WITKOP SHIELD

NSW Mini Series #2 - the Peter Witkop Shield

NSWFA is holding the 4rd Annual 2022 Peter Witkop Shield, where Fencers represent their Club in this overall Club Shield tournament. There will be events in U8, U10, U12 and U14 for all weapons; Epee, Foil and Sabre.

The Peter Witkop Shield will run over 2 weekends in May

Sunday 15th May
U8 & U12 Epee, Foil and Sabre

Sunday 22nd May
U10 & U14 Epee, Foil and Sabre

Fencers must be members of NSWFA in order to register and compete, either 2022 Junior Registered or Junior Affiliated

Entry Link:

<https://www.registernow.com.au/secure/Register.aspx?E=46722>

Sunday 15th May

U12

Epee, Foil & Sabre

U8

Epee, Foil & Sabre

Sunday 22nd May

U14

Epee, Foil & Sabre

U10

Epee, Foil & Sabre

NSW Mini Series

#2

NSW Fencing
Association

2022



6TH – 10TH JULY THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY 2022 KOALA MINI CHALLENGE

Calling all Minime U8 to U14 Fencers!

The 2022 Koala Mini Challenge is coming back soon! The KMC tournament started in 2011 and hopes to be even bigger and better in 2022. Please join NSW Fencing Association on the 10th Anniversary of the KMC, with over 5 days of Fencing, with Fencers invited from all over Australia and Oceania

Koala Mini Challenge
U8, U10, U12 & U14 Individual Epee, Foil and Sabre
(2016 – 2008)

The Tournament will run directly after the 2022 U15 and Cadet National Championships in Sydney

For more information contact
Entries@nswfencing.org.au

Wednesday 6th July

U14 Foil

Thursday 7th July

U14 Epee & Sabre

Friday 8th July

U12 Foil

Saturday 9th July

U12 Epee & Foil

Sunday 10th July

U8 & U10
Epee, Foil & Sabre

Fencer's 12 + must be fully
vaccinated

**Gold, Silver & equal Bronze +
5th – 8th place awards**

NSW Fencing Association
Presents the 2022 KMC