

### NSWFA MEMBER BULLETIN #3 MARCH & APRIL 2022

### **Passion Excellence Community**



### **MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**



Dear Community,

Welcome to the March & April newsletter. It has been a busy period on our competition

calendar, not only with the school competitions, but also with two National competitions plus the absolute highlight of our 14 NSW fencers going to the World Junior and Cadet Championships in Dubai. We have included 2 reflections in this newsletter from Nawal O'Neil and Nalin Chandran on their experiences in Dubai.

### HIGHLIGHTS

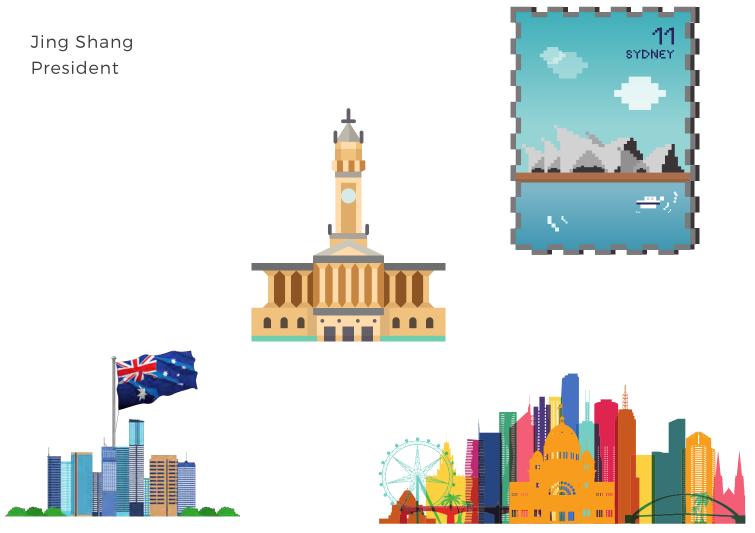
- Cadet & Junior World Championships Results
- AYC#1 & AFC#1 Results
- New Coaching Protocol
- Our Strategic Plan
- Covid Restrictions
  Lifted
- NSW Alternative Events

May will prove to be another busy month for fencers: AFC#2 which took place in Brisbane, AYC#2 in Canberra and the Junior Nationals in Melbourne. Please register now if you have not done so already. State coaches will be sent to support all our competing NSW fencers. Coaches, please get familiar with our updated NSW Coaching Protocol. Also, Covid Vaccination requirements have been lifted at National and State levels.

Recently, we have completed the annual Organisational Health survey conducted by the NSW Office of Sport. Our rating is 'Outstanding', putting us in the top tier.

Last but not the least, I'd like to invite you to have your say on our Strategic Plan (2022-2032). The Plan will serve as our guidance going forward and it is important that different opinions are heard as we shape our future in a collective and constructive way.

Thank you.



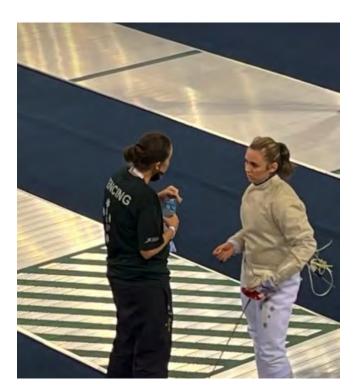
Our 14 NSW fencers did Australia proud at the 2022 World Junior and Cadet Fencing Championships in Dubai from 2-10 April!

Thank you to our head coach Antonio Signorello and coach Alex Andre for their support and guidance.

Head coach Antonio commented proudly, "The Cadet and Junior World Championships in the United Arab Emirates have once more confirmed the absolute competitiveness of our group of fencers. All our athletes, through convincing performances, have clearly shown that they belong on the international stage."

It has been a terrific learning opportunity for all our fencers.





As Nalin Chandran reflected:

"Going to the Junior World Championships was an incredible experience. Being the oldest member of the men's foil team was a novel but excellent experience. It allowed me to reflect on two key parts of my growth as a fencer. First was how, when I was doing my first international events, the older members of the men's foil team guided my approach to internal competition. Second, and most importantly, was how much progress I have made in the time span between entering cadets and exiting juniors."





# NSW showed its strength by having 4 individual top 32 finishes from 3 fencers.

Congratulations to Veronika Vasileva for her 29th place finish in Junior Women's Sabre and her 22nd place finish in Cadet Women's Sabre.





Congratulations to Sophia Glasson for her 32nd place finish in Junior Women's Foil.



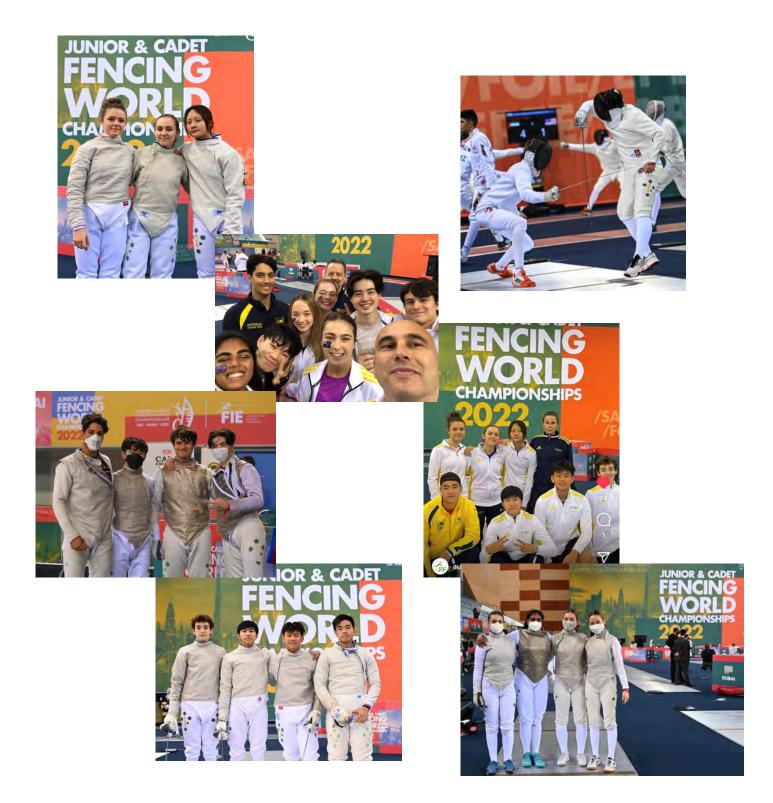


Congratulations to Joseph Glasson for his 29th place finish in Cadet Men's Foil.





Your exceptional achievement proves Australia is ready to compete on a world class level.



Congratulations to all NSW fencers who competed in our first international event after 2 years!

Here are the complete results for NSW: <u>Sabre</u> Junior Women Veronika Vasileva – 29th Gaia Hardge – 42nd Yelin Zou – 106th

Junior Men Colin Chen - 118th Poom Na Ayutthaya Palakawongse -133rd Daniel Iliffe - 136th Oscar Shi- 144th

Junior Team Women: 25th. Lost to Hungary 45-22 in round of 32. Men: 33rd. Lost to Czech Republic 45-41 in round of 64.

Cadet Women Veronika Vasileva – 22nd Gaia Hardge – 49th Yelin Zou- 60th

Cadet Men Daniel Iliffe – 84th Oscar Shi – 87th

<u>Epee</u> Junior Women Nawal O'Neil - 108th

Junior Men Aedyn Pratley - 175th

Cadet Men Kael Kolodochka – 106th <u>Foil</u> Junior Women Sophia Glasson – 32nd Neve O'Neil – 67th

Junior Men Nalin Chandran – 74th Joseph Glasson – 87th

Junior Team Women: 30th. Lost to Romania 45-26 in round of 32. Men: 30th. Defeated Puerto Rico 45-34 in round of 64. Lost to France 45-27 in round of 32.

Cadet Women Sophia Glasson – 47th Neve O'Neil - 91st

Cadet Men Joseph Glasson - 29th

Junior Team Women: 31st. Lost to Uzbekistan 45-34 in round of 64. Men: 42nd. Lost to Hungary 45-26 in round of 64.

To wrap up the experience and to begin looking ahead, we would like to share Epeeist Nawal O'Neil's reflection with you:



"Upon receiving my invitation to compete for Australia in the 2022 Junior World Championships, I was overwhelmed with pride, excitement and anxiety. This was my first major international tournament. Given the small competitor field in Australia, I really had no idea what to expect.

The tournament was held in Dubai, where our family lived for two years, between 2008 and 2010. So, I was looking forward to triggering some fond memories of such a perplexing city.

I was reminded that my time in Dubai wasn't all fencing and tourism; I also needed to keep up with my schoolwork as I am currently in Year 12.

When we arrived at Dubai's Hamdan Sports Complex, one of the largest multi-purpose sporting facilities in the world, the magnitude of the competition dawned on me. I had never seen so many fencers together in my life! The scale and professionalism of the venue were well beyond my expectations and it was incredibly patriotic to see all the competitors wearing their country uniforms.

In my tournament, the Junior Women's Épée, there were 161 fencers. My personal goal was Table of 64. Following the pools, I was placed 106. In my first Direct Elimination, I lost 15 - 13 to Mihaela Stefanova from Bulgaria, who ended up placing 23.

On reflection, the tournament was a great experience both mentally and physically. I connected with many people from around the world, including my fencing coach from London, where we lived from 2010 to 2017.

Although I didn't get the result I was hoping for, I learnt a lot about myself and will forever remember this incredible experience.

Thank you so much to everyone who made it possible and to everyone who supported me throughout the trip!"

### Australian Youth Circuit #1

The NSW Fencing Centre was abuzz over the weekend of 12-13 March hosting the first Australian Youth Circuit event. Young fencers from across Australian came to participate with much anticipated excitement and enthusiasm.

Well done to NSW fencers for gaining 3 Gold, 3 Silver and 7 Bronze medals in the individual events. Congratulations to all our NSW fencers who participated!

The mixed team events are one of the highlights of the AYCs. Young fencers were very excited to get to know new friends and team up to fence sharing the love of their sport.













### Australian Youth Circuit #1

Here are all the NSW medalists:

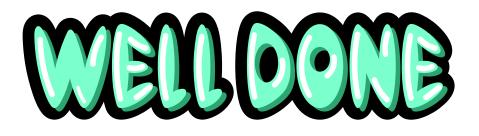
Boys Epee Silver: Richard Windsor – Sydney University Fencing Club Bronze: Harry Lau – Academy of NSW Bronze: Max Dai – Olympia Fencing Club

Girls Epee Gold: Cheelyn Wang – Hills Athletic Fencing Club

Girls Foil Silver: Candice Lin – Marconi Fencing Academy Bronze: Athena Feng – Academy of NSW Bronze: Jessica Zhao – Academy of NSW

Boys Foil Gold: Tommaso Signorello – Academy of NSW Bronze: Alex Taylor – Academy of NSW

Boys Sabre Gold: Alexander Lette – Hills Sabre Fencing Academy Silver: Daniel Iliffe – Marrickville Marauders Bronze: Alexander Bennetts – Hills Sabre Academy Bronze: Leeoh Gim – Academy of NSW





### Australian Youth Circuit #1

#### **Boys Foil Special Teams**

GOLD: Team 4: Samuel Ek, Yutian Luo, Eric Wu, Ryan Zhu SILVER: Team 3: Mitchell Lixuan Chen, Daylin Johnson,George Zhao, Xiaowei Zhou BRONZE: Team 1: Bolin Liam Chen, Mingye Lyu, Hanbi Seo, Lucas Yue

### **Girls Epee Special Teams**

GOLD: Team 2: Jinhan Goh, Annabel Phuah, Isabella Ren, Maria Yang SILVER: Team 1: Isabela Dal Moro Ferreira, Olivia Marzialetti, Cheelyn Wang, Chelsea Yang

### **Boys Epee Special Teams**

GOLD: Team 2: Yiming Chen, Roger Hu, Sora Robinson, Richard Windsor SILVER: Team 3: Max Dai, Harry Lau, Yueran Li, Yuqiao Zhao BRONZE: Team 1: Jinlin Goh, Austin O'Donohue, Thomas Wang

### **Girls Foil Special Teams**

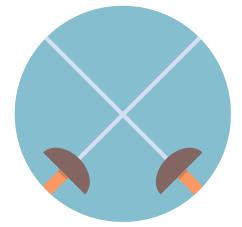
GOLD: Team 1: Yihan Gao, Hanzhang Yuan, Junyi Irina Zhang SILVER: Team 3: Athena Feng, Shayla Tang, Elva Zhang, Jessica Zhao BRONZE: Team 2: Shuran Cui, Siobhan Donohoe, Lillian Hu, Candice Lin

### **Boys Sabre Special Teams**

GOLD: Team 1: Alexander Bailey, Alexander Lette, Luca Macedo, Oscar Niizeki

SILVER: Team 2: Alexander Bennetts, Daniel Iliffe, Jaska Lewis, Thomas Wood





From 19-21 March, NSW welcomed all fencers to the NSW Fencing Centre for our first Australian Fencing Circuit eventfor 2022. Over the 3 days, we saw some impressive fencing across our Senior and Veteran categories.

Of the 6 Senior events, NSW gained 4 Gold, 4 Silver and 9 Bronze. Plus, 4 Gold, 5 Silver and 7 Bronze were gained in the Veteran events. Go NSW!

Congratulations to all fencers who so proudly represented NSW at our first National event!





#### <u>Seniors:</u>

Men's Foil Gold: Sholto Douglas – Fencing Academy of NSW Silver: Jesse Morris – Fencing Academy of NSW Bronze: Yves Fontaine – Fencing Academy of NSW

Women's Foil Silver: Violet Hull – Sydney University Fencing Club Bronze: Tianji Lukins – NSW

Men's Sabre Gold: Sean Andrews – Fencing Academy of NSW Bronze: Yoongi Shim – UTS Fencing Club Bronze: Christian Hely – Fencing Academy of NSW

Women's Sabre Gold: Zara Djamirze – Hills Sabre Fencing Academy Silver: Gaia Hardge – Marrickville Marauders Fencing Club Bronze: Yelin Zou – Fencing Academy of NSW Bronze: Min Yi Du – UTS Fencing Club

Men's Epee Bronze: Yang Liu – Leo Fencing Club

Women's Epee Gold: Genevieve Janse Van Rensburg – Newcastle PCYC Fencing Club Silver: Abigail Nutt – Macquarie University Fencing Club Bronze: Sara Scott – Sydney University Fencing Club Bronze: Emily Principe – Sydney University Fencing Club



#### <u>Veterans:</u>

Men's Foil Gold: Aurelien Calixte- UTS Fencing Silver: Adriano Albano - Sydney Fencing Club Bronze: Phillip Aitchison - UTS Fencing Club Bronze: Richard Purdie- UTS Fencing Club

Women's Foil Silver: Abigail Nutt - Macquarie University Fencing Club Bronze: Julia Lyaschenko UTS Fencing Club Bronze: Hilary Byrne - The Swords Club

Men's Sabre Silver: Radu Vintila (50+) – UTS Fencing Club Bronze: George Foster (50+) – UTS Fencing Club

Women's Sabre Gold: Melissa Yeung (50+) - UTS Fencing Club Silver: Min Yi Du (60+) – UTS Fencing Club Bronze: Harriet Jordan(50+) – Sydney University Fencing Club

Men's Epee Gold: Matthew Baker (40+) – Olympia Fencing Club Silver: Naresh Sakhrani (50+) – UTS Fencing Club Bronze: Eric Desjardins (40+) – Macquarie University Fencing Club

Women's Epee Gold: Sarah Osvath (50+) – Macquarie University Fencing Club Silver: Abigail Nutt (50+) – Macquarie University Fencing Club Bronze: Melissa Yeung (50+) – UTS Fencing Club



### **NSW Coaching Protocol**

NSWFA has set a new Coaching Protocol to clarify the roles of coaches at National, State and School competitions. This protocol is intended to ensure fairness when NSW fencers are competing against each other at National, State and Schools competitions.

A key point is that designated State coaches are not permitted to coach a NSW fencer at a National competition unless the other NSW fencer has a personal coach.

Details are here.





### Your Input is Welcome!

The NSW Fencing Association board has created a Strategic Plan for 2022 – 2032.

Our vision is to be the strongest fencing State in Australia in participation and in performance. We want to lead Australia's efforts in making a mark in international fencing.

This plan contains our vision as well as 11 key priority points that we would like you to review.

We welcome all of our community members' input. Please let us know your thoughts by Friday, 3 June 2022. Once all input is collected and addressed, a final version of our Strategic Plan will be published.

Please find the link for our strategic plan here.

Comments to: secretary@nswfencing.org.au

## NSW Tracksuit Jackets ORDER NOW

Please order your NSW tracksuit jacket now for Koala, U15 / Cadet Nationals and all future AYC and AFC events. The tracksuit jacket needs a long lead time of approximately 6-8 weeks and late orders may not be ready in time for the competitions. Please order here:

https://www.registernow.com.au/secure/Register.aspx?E=43173



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The NSWFA Board has agreed that from Wednesday 27 April the Covid rules applying to the NSW Fencing Centre will largely be removed.

The Board has taken into account the latest advice from the NSW Government, high community vaccination levels, declining case numbers and the AFF's decision to no longer require proof of vaccination to national competitions.

So, with immediate effect:

+ Proof of Covid vaccination or medical exemption will no longer be required on entry to the Fencing Centre.

+ The wearing of face masks when not actively competing or training will not be compulsory, but will continue to be strongly recommended.

+ Capacity limits will not be applied, though we request only one spectator per fencer for state competitions including school competitions.

+ Fencers and others who test positive or develop flu-like symptoms must not attend the Centre. Under Government rules, anyone who tests positive must self-isolate for 7 days.

+ In line with official advice, household or close contacts of positive cases without symptoms may attend the Centre but should wear a face mask.

+ Sensible hygiene measures should continue to be taken, including:

- regular use of hand sanitiser on entry to and while at the Fencing Centre
- minimise personal contact, e.g. no hand shaking/high fives
- do not swap clothing and equipment
- maintain social distance wherever possible

The need for Covid measures will continue to be reviewed and may be changed depending on the future course of the pandemic and official advice.

Affiliated clubs may choose to adopt this policy.

President Jing Shang notes that the effective removal of Covid measures hopefully brings to an end 25 months of disruption to fencing, including enduring long lockdowns in 2020 and 2021.

"I thank everyone in the fencing community for their patience, tolerance and co-operation with the measures NSWFA has taken to protect our fencers, coaching staff, volunteers and fencing families. We came through it together - let's all hope it is now over."

In particular, Jing thanks our Covid Marshal, Carla Harbison-Hardge; the coaching team led by Antonio Signorello; regular volunteers like Kerry Taylor and Niki Whelan; and our armourer Jeff Hardge for their efforts in keeping the Fencing Centre as safe as possible during the pandemic.

Please find NSWFA's statement here: https://www.facebook.com/NSWFAInc/?fref=ts

Approved by the NSWFA Board - 26 April 2022







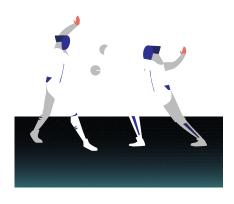
## NSW Alternative Events to the State Championships 2022 (Senior, Cadet and U15)

Should anyone miss a State Championship for his or her chosen age group, he or she may join an approved Alternative Event of the same age group and the same weapon to qualify for the respective National Championship.

Based on the current 2022 competition calendar, the following are approved Alternative Events for Seniors, Cadets and U15s in NSW. State Championships are also listed for your reference.

Please note that AFF national ranking points will be awarded for State Championships but not for Alternative Events.

Veterans - While veterans are not required to attend the NSW Veteran Championship to qualify for entry to the Australian Veterans Championships, if they want to compete in the Australian Senior (Open) Championships, as many do, they will have to enter the NSW Open Championships or a designated Alternative Event.





### <u>Senior</u>

- 28/8 Sydney "Coupe du Monde"
- 13/11 Nationals Prep
- \* 16/10 State Open Championship

### <u>Cadet</u>

- 19/6 Regional Cadet Competition at Lake Macquarie
- \* 26/6 State Cadet Championship

### <u>U15</u>

19/6 Regional U15 competition at Lake Macquarie (to be confirmed)

### \* 5/6 State U15 Championship

All competitions are subject to change without prior notice. We will update the Alternative Events list as necessary.

For more information about the prerequisites for National Championships, please visit:

<u>https://www.ausfencing.org/state-championship-prerequisite-to-</u> <u>national-championships-aff-rankings-points/</u>



### **Amazing News from the US**

Over the April school holiday, a few of our fencers travelled to the United States to compete in the North American Cup (Charlotte), a national circuit event.

A big congratulations to Joseph Glasson for winning Bronze in the Cadet Men's Foil!

A terrific performance showing his commitment, hard work and great support from coaches, family and community.









# MINI SERIES #2 15<sup>TH</sup> & 22<sup>ND</sup> MAY 2022 PETER WITKOP SHIELD

NSW Mini Series #2 - the Peter Witkop Shield

NSWFA is holding the 4<sup>rd</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> May U8 & U12 Epee, Foil and Sabre

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> 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: <u>https://www.registernow.com.au/secure/Register.aspx?E=46722</u>

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May U12 Epee, Foil & Sabre U8 Epee, Foil & Sabre

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May U14 Epee, Foil & Sabre U10 Epee, Foil & Sabre

NSW Mini Series

#2

NSW Fencing Association

2022



## SUNDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2022 2022 CLUB OPEN & U10 TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

#### **NSW Fencing Association presents**

The 2022 Open Club Teams Championships will be held in coordination with the 2022 U10 Club Teams. Clubs can enter teams in Epee, Foil and Sabre

#### Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June

Open Club Teams - Epee, Foil & Sabre U10 Club Teams - Epee, Foil & Sabre

#### Please note:

Club Teams can be mixed gender.

Fencers for Open Club Team Fencers must be Junior or Senior Affiliated Fencers for U10 Club Team Fencers can be either Junior Registered or Junior Affiliated Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June State Open Club Teams Championships

Epee, Foil & Sabre

State U10 Club Teams Championships Epee, Foil & Sabre

**NSW Fencing Association** 

Presents 2022 Club Teams Championships

NSW

The U10 Club Teams is part the Mini Series for 2022

2022 NSWFA

Membership needed



## 2022 NSW GIRL'S & WOMEN'S SABRE WORKSHOPS

#### State Girl's & Women's Sabre Workshops - 2022

NSW Fencing Association will be running Sunday Sabre Workshops for Women's and Girl's Sabre development. The workshops will focus on agility, coordination and speed drills. Technical and tactical Fencing "game" through footwork, structured bouting, video analysis session and competitive Fencing.

Register for the workshops is **FREE** 

Workshop #1 Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2022 Suitable for 2016 – 2008 & 2007 – 2004

Workshop #2 Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2022 Suitable for 2016 – 2008 & 2007 – 2004

#### **Registration Link:**

https://www.registernow.com.au/secure/Register.aspx?E=46996

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> June 10:00 – 4:30

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September 10:00 – 4:30

Bring Lunch and Drinks / Fencing Equipment with you

> 2016 – 2004 Fencers

Fencers must be members of NSW Fencing Association for 2022

The Workshop is FREE, but Fencers must register



## 6<sup>TH</sup> – 10<sup>TH</sup> JULY THE 10<sup>TH</sup> 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 10<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> July U14 Foil

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July U14 Epee & Sabre

> Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July U12 Foil

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July U12 Epee & Foil

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July U8 & U10 Epee, Foil & Sabre

Fencer's 12 + must be fully vaccinated

<u>Gold, Silver & equal Bronze +</u> <u>5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> place awards</u>

NSW Fencing Association Presents the 2022 KMC



## 11<sup>TH</sup> – 13<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2022 NSW WINTER SCHOOL HOLIDAY FOIL & EPEE 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

 $90 - 1 \, day \, 170 - 2 \, days \, 250 - 3 \, days$ 

**Registration Link:** 

https://www.registernow.com.au/secure/Register.aspx?E=47081



9:30am -3:30pm Drop off from 9am

Weapon – Foil & Epee for School & Beginners

Beginners & Intermediate (suitable for little Fencers from 8+)

Bring water, lunch, and your equipment if you have any or else it will be provided

Includes coaching and electric fencing

NSWFC Building 2 190 Bourke Rd. Alexandria 2015

www.nswfencing.org.au



# 14<sup>TH</sup> – 16<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2022

## State Sabre Training Camp

#### July School Holiday Program

This NSW Fencing Association Camp is suitable for Fencers of all ages and levels, including complete beginners. From the age of 7+ to Junior (U20) Sabre Fencers

Fencers must be 2022 Junior Registered or Junior Affiliated Members of NSW Fencing Association to be able to register.

The Camp will include; agility, speed and coordination exercises, footwork, technical and tactical drills, Fencing lessons and lots of Fencing

Daily sessions 9:30am - 3:30pm\$90 - 1 day \$170 - 2 days \$250 - 3 days

Perfect School Holiday program and Sabre Development, getting ready for the Fencing season ahead.

Fencers must bring any and all Fencing equipment, packed lunch and drinks. Wear suitable clothing for fitness training and warm up. 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> July 3 Day Sabre Camp

ALL Levels

Complete Beginners to State Squad Fencer

U8 - U14

U15 – Cadet & Junior

Sabre

9:30 - 3:30 Daily

NSW Fencing Association Building 2, Level 1 190 Bourke Road Alexandria

2022 Junior Registered or Junior Affiliation Membership needed