

# OLYMPIAN

## FENCING CLUB

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**2025-2026**

## **OLYMPIAN FENCING CLUB (OFC) POLICIES/CONTRACT**

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In order to help you succeed in your training and to facilitate communication between parents, fencers, and coaches, OFC Head Coach Tommi has established team policies regarding class participation, camps, lessons, tournaments, coaching, class promotion, and payments. Please download and save this policy for future reference. Please read throughout the policy so you can better understand how we operate.

Feel free to contact us with any questions: [info@OlympianFencingClub.com](mailto:info@OlympianFencingClub.com) / telephone: 210.872.2004, Head Coach Tommi Hurme: [Tommi@OlympianFencingClub.com](mailto:Tommi@OlympianFencingClub.com) / cell: 347.866.5594 or Administrator, Linda Tiemann: [admin@olympianfencingclub.com](mailto:admin@olympianfencingclub.com) / Cell: 210.201.2510

## 1. OLYMPIAN FENCING CLUB (OFC) and Coaching Staff

Congratulations on joining the largest and most successful fencing club in the San Antonio Metropolitan area, OLYMPIAN FENCING CLUB (OFC), we look forward to a fun and successful season with you. OFC is proud to have you as a competitive and/or recreational fencer representing our club. OFC is a fencing club with a year-around fencing program, our season starts August 1<sup>st</sup> and ends on July 31<sup>st</sup> of the following year.

OLYMPIAN FENCING CLUB gives fencers the opportunity to fence several times a week so they can advance in their fencing skills. Our training program is designed to prepare fencers to compete at Regional, National, and International competitions and provide a fun atmosphere for exercise and a healthy lifestyle.

Many of our fencers have earned medals in various national, international, and local competitions. Our fencers have been offered scholarships and recruiting spots at the following NCAA Division I fencing colleges: Princeton, Stanford, Columbia, Harvard, Yale, Wharton (at UPenn), Duke, Northwestern, Ohio State, Penn State, Air Force Academy, and the University of Incarnate Word.

OLYMPIAN FENCING CLUB is led by **Tommi Hurme**, a World-class athlete and coach with 20+ years of competitive epee fencing experience including 4 years training in Budapest, Hungary alongside the Hungarian National Team. He is trained and coaches in the Hungarian fencing tradition and has worked under Dr. Paul Pesthy, Maitre Michel Sebastiani, Victor Svatenko, Dr. Aladar Kogler, Zoltan Dudas, and Ivan Kovacs. He is certified as a Prevot level coach from the US Fencing Coaches Association. His fencing achievements include Veteran National Team Member 2025, Vet 40 National Champion 2025, Junior National Team member in 2004, Junior National Champion in 2003, Princeton Varsity Fencing Team Captain in 2007 and 2008, Div 1 Nationals top 8 finisher in 2007, 8th place finish at NCAA Championships 2008, Paris World Cup top 32 finisher in 2009, 1st place Kupittaa Satellite World Cup Turku, Finland in 2011, and 1st place Men's Epee Team Nationals 2008 and 2010.

Please see our full roster of coaches on our website:

<https://www.olympianfencingclub.com/about/coaches/>

OFC is a club member of US Fencing Association (USFA), every participant at OFC is required to obtain a USFA membership, "Access" or "Competitive" level per season, which must be in the Fencer's name, not the Parent's name. This can be obtained at the following website. Please provide us a copy of your fencer's membership card (it will have a barcode on it) on the first day of practice or email it to us, please do not bring payment receipt. As you are creating the new USA Fencing account, remember to affiliate the fencer with OLYMPIAN FENCING CLUB in the South Texas Division:

<http://www.usfencing.org/membership> (on this page, under "MEMBERSHIP" click on upper left "Join or Renew")

## 2. Mission Statement

OFC's mission is to create and develop fencers who will achieve Regional, National & International success. Fencing is a sport that teaches discipline and respect for others. Everything taught at OLYMPIAN FENCING CLUB is to be only used and demonstrated at fencing clubs, and other venues holding fencing classes and competitions. Fencing technique and fencing equipment is not to be demonstrated or used "on the street" and should only be used under the strictest supervision. The goal of the OFC program is to prepare students to perform at the highest level of which they are capable in local, national, and international competition. The skills which will be taught at OFC include: Technical footwork, substantial repertoire of technical blade skills, tactical understanding of fencing, ability to construct a bout during competition, and the ability to train and compete with focus and discipline. We're focused on providing a rewarding experience that will build confidence, reinforce teamwork, and inspire the personal growth necessary for you or your child to take the next step in life. OFC also seeks to promote the Olympic sport of Fencing in the San Antonio Metropolitan area.

### 3. Proper Attire

All students are expected to wear proper clothing and footwear for classes, lessons, and bouts. For safety reasons, nobody will be permitted to fence in shorts or open-toed shoes and fencers are **only allowed to fence wearing full length socks and fencing pants (knickers)**. Only the front sock is required but both are preferred. Students should wear athletics shorts/pants, a t-shirt, socks, and athletic sneakers. Recreational fencers can rent club equipment or they can purchase their own equipment, OFC office will assist with equipment purchase. OFC Gold Team, OFC Silver Team, OFC Bronze Team & Open Fencing students should bring their own equipment (e.g. mask, glove, weapons and uniform). Bringing a small towel to practice is highly recommended but not required. Water and food breaks are crucial during the practice time. Light carbohydrate foods, sports drinks, power bars, and fruits are encouraged during breaks.

### 4. Code of Conduct

All OLYMPIAN FENCING CLUB students are expected to conduct themselves with professionalism and courtesy at all times, and to show respect to coaches, teammates, and opponents during classes, lessons, and tournaments. All OFC fencers must support their teammates and coaches appropriately at practice and at tournaments. All OFC fencers will welcome and support new members and realize that new and or younger fencers look up to them and follow their leadership, loyalty, and training habits. Members encourage them and assist them during practice and competition as directed by the coach. Anyone who is found to be in violation of this code of conduct may be asked to leave the Club at the sole discretion of the coaches.

### 5. OFC Club Rules

- Fencers will make all necessary effort to be on time for practice.
- If you get to practice early, please have a seat, don't run around, and wait for the coach.
- Fencers must greet coaches upon arrival and notify coaches when leaving practice.
- Fencers will make all necessary efforts to stay until the end of practice.
- During fencing bouts, if asked to fence, you cannot refuse unless directed by the coach.
- Fencers must be properly dressed from head to toe in proper fencing gear to be allowed to fence.
- Bullying, Harassment, Hazing, Emotional & Physical Misconduct is not allowed at practice and/or at competitions.
- Respect teammates, coaches, parents, referees and everyone else in the facility during practice and competition.
- There will be no coaching or cheering against fellow OFC fencers at tournaments.
- Keep the weapon's point down when not fencing and absolutely no horseplay with weapons.
- We recommend no eating during practice except healthy snacks and drinking water or Gatorade in moderation. Best to eat and drink at least an hour prior to and half an hour after practice.
- Keep food and drinks in designated areas and always clean up after yourself.
- Stay at the fencing area at all times except during breaks.
- Always return any borrowed/rented equipment neatly and in its proper place.
- Bathroom use: before practice and during break time, with an exception of an emergency.
- Students 12 and under are not permitted to use the locker rooms. They must use the individual restrooms on the opposite side of the hallway.
- Be a good sport, gracious in victory, and accept defeat with dignity during practice and competition.
- We do not recommend training when sick or injured, please consult with a Doctor or Coach.
- Fencers are not allowed to have chewing gum, phones, tablets, computer games, and computers during practice. Phones are an exception in an emergency. Keep all your electronics in your bag as you enter the club.
- Parents are not allowed on fencing strips during practice unless asked by the Coach for assistance. Parents are welcome to stay during practice but they should be on the bleachers and not on the floor.

### 6. OFC Training Program

***OFC Club annual membership required for all fencers except for Little Olympians & Beginner's class participants.***

All OFC classes are organized and supervised by a Coach. Recreational and Competitive Team classes will start with Group class sessions (1.5hr.) which will focus on a short warm up game, footwork, fencing fitness, fencing, and competition strategy. We will follow up with free fencing until the end of practice. *OFC requires one month (30 days) notice before a student/parent changes a class and it will have to be approved by the Head Coach. There are no refunds or make ups when a fencer misses practice.*

### **Little Olympians – 4-6 years old (1 practice per week, every Friday from 5pm to 6pm)**

Little Olympians Class is designed for girls & boys age 4 to 6 who are new or have recently been introduced to fencing. Students are asked to bring a water bottle, an extra t-shirt, warm-up pants or sweatpants and comfortable sneakers. They will be taught the very basic skills of fencing every Friday from 5-6 pm per week for \$120/mo. This will include warm ups, play games based on hand – eye coordination, proper footwork, various fencing moves, and of course fencing. Full equipment is provided by OFC: plastic light weight weapons, plastic light weight masks, gloves and jackets. Little Olympians who turn 6 years old can opt to move to Recreational Fencing.

### **Beginner's Program – 6 years old & up (attend age appropriate classes on either M/W or T/Th)**

The Beginners Fencing Program is designed for anyone aged 6 years old and up who are new or have recently been introduced to fencing. Our teaching philosophy is based on working one-on-one with our fencers to develop individual skills in a group-learning environment. Students are asked to bring a water bottle, an extra t-shirt, and comfortable sneakers.

Full equipment is provided by OFC: weapons, masks, gloves, and jackets.

Our classes teach the fundamentals of epee fencing including the fencing en-guard stance, how to warm up properly, footwork, tactics, and basic blade actions. The first half of class includes warm up, footwork, and blade technique drills. The second half is dedicated to bouting (fencing one another in full gear). Attend unlimited classes throughout the month and fall in love with epee fencing!

There are no make ups or refunds for missed classes.

The class Fee: \$125/mo.

### **Recreational Classes**

Olympian Fencing Club's primary class offering are the Recreational Fencing Classes. Recreational subscriptions include two age-specific classes a week plus open fencing sessions available Monday through Friday. Classes range from 1 to 1.5 hours based on age-group and include a warm up, conditioning/agility, footwork training, technical training, and tactical training. Classes conclude with open fencing during the open fencing times.

### **Training Camps**

OFC offers 6-7 weeklong training camps each year during the summer, spring, and winter breaks. Attendance is on a first come, first served basis and currently training camp attendance is limited to 30 participants. Training camps are one of the best ways to improve significantly over a short period of time. Competitive fencers are expected to attend at least 50% of OFC training camps per season.

### **Saturday Practices**

Olympian Fencing Club runs advanced practices for competitive fencers on Saturdays throughout the season (paused from July to mid-August) from 10am to 2pm. These practices include 2 hours of sport-specific conditioning, plyometric, fitness, and endurance training followed by 2 hours bouting with 1 hour of instructor-led structured bouting. OFC is required to pay an additional fee to hold practices each Saturday to the University of Incarnate Word and unfortunately they are increasing that price this season. Therefore, OFC will need to charge an additional \$25/month to recreational fencers who wish to participate in Saturday practices (if not already included in their membership type). Vet Competitive and our Bronze, Silver, and Gold Competitive Team memberships (coming soon) will include Saturday training sessions.

## **Recreational Membership Prices**

- Little Olympians - \$120/month (Fridays only from 5-6pm)
- Y8 - Y10 Recreational Fencing - \$170/month
- Y12 Recreational Fencing - \$180/month
- Y14 - Junior Recreational Fencing - \$195/month
- Adult Recreational Fencing (18+) - \$185/month OFC Parent Classes - \$160/month
- OFC Out of Town - \$80/month

## **Recreational + Saturday Practice Subscription Prices**

- Y8 - Y10 Recreational Fencing + Saturdays - \$195/month
- Y12 Recreational Fencing + Saturdays - \$205/month
- Y14 - Junior Recreational Fencing + Saturdays - \$220/month
- Adult Recreational Fencing (18+) + Saturdays - \$210/month
- OFC Out of Town + Saturdays - \$160/month

- ✓ Anyone 6 years old and up interested in fencing for fun and some competitions
- ✓ Willing to participate at least 50% at OFC local tournaments and some tournaments where OFC participates as a Team (Regional and National including Summer Nationals & Junior Olympics)
- ✓ Willing to take some Private Lessons to improve fencing skills
- ✓ Willing to respect Coaches, Teammates, Referees & Parents
- ✓ Willing to working hard towards getting on one of the OFC Teams

Recreational fencers who attend competitions where OFC attends as a Team are required to pay coaching fees if the minimum number (5) of OFC fencers are attending.

## **Competitive Class Options**

Olympian Fencing Club is dedicated to helping motivated students achieve their goals at any level of fencing whether it be attending a division 1 college fencing program, obtaining national points, or making a World Team. OFC Coaches have experience at all levels of competition and know what is required of students to achieve their goals. This program is structured to encompass the core requirements fencers need to achieve these goals. Fencers who commit to a competitive class option must understand that achieving these goals can take several years of commitment with several sacrifices along the way (e.g., fencers may need to miss the family ski trip during winter break in order to attend OFC's winter training camp to prepare for the Junior Olympic Championships in January).

### Requirements

- Weekly class attendance requirement and make up class attendance requirements (including attending open fencing on evenings without scheduled classes)
- Weekly minimum private lesson requirement
- 3-4 training camp attendance requirement per season
- Training/Competition Journal entry requirements
- Minimum tournament attendance requirements

### Benefits

- Prioritized private lesson scheduling
- Training, goal-setting, and competition planning sessions with coaches at beginning and midpoint of competition season
- Supplemental fitness training programs

- Supplemental training sessions focusing on tournament tactics, video analysis, and post competition debrief sessions

### **Out of Town Competitive - Fencers may attend open fencing on Fridays and Saturday class from 10am-2pm**

This program is designed for competitive fencers who live outside of San Antonio and can primarily attend training sessions on Fridays/Saturdays. These fencers may occasionally attend practices on Mondays and Fridays if their schedule permits, within reason. Class Fees: \$160/mo

If attendance is only once a week Class Fees: \$80/mo

### **Parents Program**

This is a new monthly promotional option for **parents** who would like to learn to fence. Parents can attend one class per week on Mondays or Wednesdays and two open fencing sessions per week for \$160/mo. This will include equipment rental and one on one time with a coach their first couple of weeks to get them up to speed alongside other beginners. If a parent wants to become more competitive and attend more sessions per week they can upgrade to our recreational fencing program.

### **Vet Competitive**

This offering is for fencers 40 and over who are interested in competing at National tournaments and achieving rankings. Competitive Vet fencers can attend two classes per week on Mondays and Wednesdays in addition to all open bouting sessions, including Saturdays.

Class Fees: \$185/mo

### **Open Fencing 1 (Once per week, 2 hr. each)**

Designed for 6 years old and up fencers, working adults as well as fencing parents who would like to learn and practice fencing as an exercise. Open Fencers are encouraged to compete at OFC local tournaments as well as Regional and National tournaments.

Fee: \$85/mo.

### **Open Fencing 2 (Twice per week, 2 hr. each)**

Designed for 6 years old and up fencers, working adults as well as fencing parents who would like to learn and practice fencing as an exercise. Open Fencers are encouraged to compete at OFC local tournaments as well as Regional and National tournaments.

If a fencer misses practice in Open Fencing 1 or 2 she/he cannot make up in a different week or month.

Fee: \$110/mo.

### **Open Fencing Unlimited (up to 6 days per week, 2 hr. each)**

Family discount available with Open Fencing Unlimited.

Designed for 11 years old and up fencers, working adults as well as fencing parents who would like to learn and practice fencing as an exercise. Open Fencers are encouraged to compete at OFC local tournaments as well as Regional and National tournaments.

Fee: \$135/mo.

## Weekly Class Schedule

### Olympian Fencing Club – Program Schedule 2025/2026

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9:00:00 AM						
10:00:00 AM						Competitive Conditioning 10:00am-2pm Open Boutings 12 - 2pm
10:30:00 AM						
11:00:00 AM						
11:30:00 AM						
12:00:00 PM						
12:30:00 PM						
1:00:00 PM						
2:00:00 PM						
3:30:00 PM						
4:00:00 PM	Private Lessons 4-6pm	Private Lessons 4-4:30pm	Private Lessons 4-6pm	Private Lessons 4-4:30pm		
4:30:00 PM		Y10 Class 4:30 - 5:30pm		Y10 Class 4:30 - 5:30pm	Private Lessons 4:30-5pm	
5:00:00 PM					Little Olympians 5-6pm	
5:30:00 PM		Y12 Class and Y10 Boutings 5:30 - 6:30pm		Y12 Class and Y10 Boutings 5:30 - 6:30pm	Open Fencing and Lessons 5:30-8	
6:00:00 PM	Y14 and up Class 6-7:30pm	Y12 + Open Fencing 6:30 - 8pm	Y14 and up class 6-7:30pm	Y12 + Open Fencing 6:30 - 8pm		
6:30:00 PM						
7:00:00 PM						
7:30:00 PM	Open Fencing 7-9pm		Open Fencing 7-9pm			
8:00:00 PM						
8:30:00 PM						
9:00:00 PM						

## 7. Private Lessons

Private lessons are 20-25 minutes one on one technical and tactical lessons with the coach. It is strongly recommended that competitive fencers supplement their practices with private lessons each week (\$50/lesson for non-OFC members and \$45 for OFC members). Lesson bundles are available for OFC members only \$180 for a bundle of 4, \$345 for a bundle of 8, and \$445 for a bundle of 12.

We also offer an auto-renewal for 12 lessons at a 10% discount/\$400. Once lesson balance reaches zero 12 more are automatically purchased and an email notification is sent.

Keep in mind that because of the nature of this sport, consistently taking Private Lessons is the best tool to advance one's fencing technical skills.

At the beginning of each season, fencers are asked to rank their top 3 coach selections for private lessons. Due to scheduling limitations, not all fencers will be given their first preference. Fencers will also be assigned a scheduled lesson time per week based on their preferences. Fencers must notify the coach of cancellations 24 hours in advance to reschedule otherwise the lesson will be charged. Fencers must wear full fencing uniform during private lessons. If lessons are not renewed within a timely manner (2 weeks) the scheduled slot will be forfeited.

*Lessons expire one year after purchase.*

## 8. Training Plan

OFC Competitive Fencers are expected to complete a Training Plan and Tournament Schedule at the beginning of the competitive season. This plan should be reviewed with the coach and the fencer's parents.

## 9. Tournaments

Beginning each season, OFC coaching staff will choose 10 to 15 competitions that OFC will go as a Team. Keep in mind that some fencers may be eligible to attend 10 while some may attend more since it is based on the fencers age group (Tournaments with ♥ in our website calendar). This includes Summer Nationals (National event), JO (Junior Olympics, National event), NAC's (North American Cup, National event), SYC's



(Super Youth Circuit, National event), RYC's (Regional Youth Circuit), RCC (Regional Cadet Circuit), RJC (Regional Junior Circuit), RJCC (Regional Junior & Cadet Circuit), ROC (Regional Open Circuit) and other important competitions for the season. If there are 5 or more OFC fencers willing and signed up to participate in any of those chosen competitions, there will be coaching and coaches' expenses will be split between all fencers (optional for Open fencers) plus coaching fees per each event. However, if there are 4 or less signed up for any one of those competitions, coaching will be optional. In that case, those fencers can opt to have coaching, and coaches' expenses will be split between those fencers. It is highly recommended for all fencers to fence one age category above for any tournaments when possible for better experience!

Please regularly visit our [www.OlympianFencingClub.com](http://www.OlympianFencingClub.com) homepage to see our calendar with most important tournaments, events and reminders for the Season. Heart symbol (♥) in front of the tournament means a competition where OFC participates as a Team, coach(es) will attend and there will be coaching fees!

## **OFC Local Tournaments**

OFC organizes 6-8 local tournaments per season. Please pre-register at least a month in advance so we can draw more fencers from other clubs which will benefit our fencers. Please arrive 30-45 minutes before the event closes so you have time to check in, check equipment and warm up together with your OFC teammates. Make sure you have at least 2 working epees and 2 working body cords, full clean and presentable white fencing uniform (as per USFA regulations), OFC patch on fencing jacket and last name on back. Please wear your OFC warm up jacket, hoodie anytime when not fencing.

After your event is finished, please remain at the tournament, cheering on other Olympian members and watching the final bouts. This is an opportunity to learn. In any event, please consult with an OFC coach before leaving the venue.

We expect our Recreational Fencers to participate in all or at least 50% of OFC Local Tournaments and for OFC Competitive Fencers to attend all or at least 80% of OFC Local Tournaments. Open Fencers are also encouraged to participate in all or most of our local tournaments. Keep in mind, OFC Local Tournaments are part of our training program preparation.

### **Here are some of the key benefits to OFC fencer's participation in our local tournaments:**

- ✓ *Using Local tournaments as a "BRIDGE" from practice to the bigger and more important tournaments.*
- ✓ *Getting familiar with fencing competitions and rules (new fencers).*
- ✓ *Easing the pressure of competing and training the mental component.*
- ✓ *Getting experience without the pressure to win but working on key mental & physical teachings (experienced fencers).*
- ✓ *Free coaching if available (OFC coaches will be organizing the tournament and refereeing)*
- ✓ *Will help your fencing teammates to grow collectively as a team.*
- ✓ *Early registration will draw more fencers from other clubs which will help boost the competition ranking.*
- ✓ *More fencers means getting more experience and possible higher classification rankings (A rated event)*
- ✓ *Helping the club's effort to create fencers at a higher level.*
- ✓ *and many more.*

## **Regional, National, International & other outside OFC Tournaments**

We expect our Recreational Fencers to participate in some Tournaments where OFC goes as a Team and for Competitive Fencers to attend all or at least \*50% of Tournaments where OFC goes as a Team. Tournaments where OFC attends as a Team means that coaching fees will apply to all Team and Recreational fencers who are registered, but will be optional for Open Fencing fencers.

It is Important to know about the qualifying path to (NAC's) North American Cup's, (JO) Junior Olympics and Summer Nationals: Please refer to the current Athletes Handbook on the [USA Fencing website](http://USA Fencing website)

Please make sure you bring your child's USA Fencing membership card (USFA Competitive) and ID (passport, Birth Certificate or other photo ID) for check in and arrive an hour before the event closing registration time

so that you can check in, check equipment, and warm-up. Lines are sometimes long for equipment check at bigger tournaments like NAC's, Junior Olympics & Summer Nationals so if you arrive the day before you can go straight to the venue to check your equipment (usually before 6pm). Remember, you will only need to check equipment one time and not for every event, but you will have to check in before closing for each of your events. Please arrive at the venue with your OFC jacket, hoodie or t-shirt for all tournaments. Look for our OFC banner located in the venue (text me as enter and I will give you the location on our banner 347-866-5594) to meet the rest of your teammates and coach. You should be dressed and ready to warm-up with your teammates. When at the venue and not fencing (even as a spectator) you please wear an OFC jacket, hoodie or t-shirt at all times. If parents have OFC apparel please wear it and help support our fencers!

Make sure you have at least 3 or more working epees and 3 working body cords, a full clean and presentable white fencing uniform (as per USFA regulations), OFC patch on fencing jacket with last name on back, and a towel if you wish. National tournaments require all fencers to have their name on the back of their jackets. Please contact me if you want to get the last name embroidered on the jacket in town, otherwise there are vendors at the tournament who can stencil the last name onto the jacket. Note it usually requires at least 4 hours for the stenciling to dry so I recommend dropping it off the day before if possible. Also have water, Gatorade, bananas, fruit, salty snacks, chocolate and other healthy snacks with protein to sustain energy levels throughout the day.

Sometimes 2 OFC fencers face each other on strip. In these situations there will not be coaching or cheering by any OFC coach, member, or family. However, any team member or a parent may approach either fencer (only 1 person allowed) during break time or medical assistant with drink and or support.

After your event is finished please remain at the tournament to cheer and offer help to any other OFC members who are still fencing. This is also a good opportunity to learn. The only exceptions to this are when you must leave for a flight or have an early event the next morning. In any event, please consult with the OFC coach before leaving the venue. Please make sure when you sign up for Tournaments and book your return flights that you book them for the following day of the event because one never knows what time your event will start and what time your fencer will finish.

Please go to: <https://fencingtimelive.com/> And navigate to find the tournament when you arrive onsite. This is the live update for the tournament, events, pools, DEs, results, etc.

\*Please note that failure to comply with the above-mentioned OFC Tournament policies can result in the coaching staff withdrawing a Fencer from OFC Teams, private lessons, and/or from receiving any coaching during competitions or practice. Although Fencing itself is an individual sport, most fencers compete as part of a Club. And with that said, it is important that all of our fencers participate in local tournaments as part of our preparation as well as Tournaments where OFC goes as a Team. It is particularly important for our more experienced, competitive fencers to participate at OFC tournaments so that they can hone their skills in a less stressful setting AND help new fencers gain more experience. We would like to thank all of you in advance for your consideration and adherence to this policy.

## **10. Coaching at Tournaments**

While at the tournament, it is the job of the coach to assist the fencer as much as possible. Keep in mind, however, that at some events there are many OFC students fencing at once. When the situation occurs, a coach must set priorities. For the fencer who is attending a tournament for the first time, coaching during the opening rounds can be especially important. The more experienced fencers should not have any difficulty in the seeding pools and will not need as much attention until later in the event. We will always try to make sure that a coach is available when the fencer needs it the most. Ultimately, that is the coach's decision, and we request that fencers and parents defer to the coach's determination.

While it is the coach's job to act in the student's best interest at all times while coaching on the strip, fencer's inappropriate or disrespectful behavior towards coaches, referees, parents, or opponents will not be supported by the coach. OFC coaching staff will support the hard work of all our fencers at any practice as well as competitions. It is important to know that it usually takes 4 to 6 months of preparation for one to perform at his/her best, not 2-3 weeks prior to the competition. It is essential for each participant to attend

as many OFC practices as possible from the schedule of the club level they are signed up for. Success can be achieved with commitment from the student in combination with support from the parents.

Coaches are perfectly willing to fix equipment in a strip-side emergency. However, do not arrive at a tournament with only one working weapon, assuming that a coach will act as an armorer the night before your event, or worse, during the event itself. When you step into a car or taxi to go to the airport for your competition, you should be fully prepared to fence with at least 3 functioning epees and 3 body cords.

## 11. Tournament Coaching Expenses and Fees

OFC members are eligible for coaching assistance at selected local tournaments throughout the year, subject to the coaches' availability. For National tournaments (Summer Nationals, JO, NAC's and SYC) a \$50 fee for the first event and \$30 fee for each additional event will be charged for coaching. For Regional tournaments (RYC, RCC, RJC, RJCC & ROC) a \$30 fee for each event will be charged. For all other tournaments, outside of San Antonio City limits, a \$25 fee per event will be charged. In addition, the coaches' travel expenses will be divided per fencer for travel, meals, and accommodations. At tournaments where OFC goes as a Team, coaching fees will apply to all Recreational and Team fencers who are registered. It is optional for Open Fencing fencers. Payment will be automatically charged to the fencers' card on file with OFC on a certain date specified in the coaching email. Alternative payment methods can be arranged prior to the stated deadline. After the email is sent by the coach to all participants for tournament coaching fees and if fencers are unable to attend the competition for any reason, the coaches' fees will be returned but not the coaches' expenses since they were already divided among all participants. This applies to all selected tournaments with coaching.

Please regularly visit our [www.OlympianFencingClub.com](http://www.OlympianFencingClub.com) homepage to see our calendar with the most important tournaments, events, and reminders for the Season. Heart symbols(♥) in front of the tournament indicate competitions where OFC participates as a Team, coach(es) will attend, and coaching fees will apply.

## 12. Payments

A non-refundable annual OFC membership/registration fee for individuals or families (except Little Olympians & Beginner's class fencers) is required for all OFC members. Monthly payments for all OFC fencers are processed through Automatic Credit card/debit card payment system (Stripe). If Credit Card auto payment is not chosen, \$25 will be added per fencer's monthly payment. It is your responsibility to notify us with any changes on your Credit Card we have on file. Members can also access the "[Member Login](#)" section on our webpage to update their default payment card.

A \$25 late fee if credit card declines or payment is made after the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month. If monthly payment is not made by 15<sup>th</sup>, \$50 late fee will apply and if monthly payment not paid by 25<sup>th</sup> fencer will be terminated. Furthermore, there will be a \$25 fee applied for any returned checks. Other payments besides monthly dues and club membership like lessons, tournament coaching fees, equipment, etc. can be done with check, cash, venmo, or zelle. Credit card payment links can also be sent if requested.

There are no refunds for classes canceled due to any National Holiday and there are no refunds when a fencer misses practice.

### Pausing subscription throughout the year

Fencers may temporarily suspend their subscription for \$50 a month maintenance fee and to remain in good standing with the club. Fencers must notify us via email to [admin@olympianfencingclub.com](mailto:admin@olympianfencingclub.com) the month prior.

OFC fencers are expected to make a commitment to participate until the month of July, which is the last month of each season. Team Fencers who wish to take the month of July off will only pay \$50 of the monthly fee for club maintenance. Little Olympians, Recreational Fencers, and Open Fencers who wish to take any of the following month (s) June and or July off and planning to return will only pay \$50 of the monthly fee per month for club maintenance fee. We will need to be notified 30 days in advance otherwise you will be charged for the entire month.

### OFC annual Membership benefits:

- Discounts for private lessons, fencing camps and other OFC activities.

- Private lesson packages.
- Family discounts for Camps.
- High-level instruction.
- Coaching assistance at selected local tournaments throughout the year, subject to Coaches' availability.

### 13. Camps

OFC Camps are for fencers 6 years old and up and are designed to prepare OFC fencers for Junior Olympics, Summer Nationals, and upcoming National and International tournaments. If you would like to succeed in the sport of fencing we highly recommend our OFC camps to improve conditioning and technical skills for the season.

All OFC members will receive a \$50 discount plus family discount for all OFC Camps.

\*It is not acceptable for OFC fencer(s) to participate at any other Fencing Camps on the same days when OFC has OFC Camps, except with Head Coach's approval!

OFC will have 2-4 main annual training Camps throughout each season which are highly recommended for Competitive Fencers as well as for Recreational and Open Fencers who would like to get better and succeed:

- "Back in Shape" OFC Camp in August is to boost our fencers for the new upcoming season.
- Winter OFC Camp - to boost and prepare our fencers for Junior Olympics.
- Spring Break Camp to prepare for April NAC and Div 1 Nationals
- 1-2 OFC "Pre-National" Camps during the month of June to prepare our fencers for Summer Nationals.

Other development Camps may be scheduled during June, July & August. All Camps information and forms will be available on our [website](#). Please also pre-register in AskFred.net under "Camps/Clinics" for our OFC "Back in Shape", "Winter Camp" & "Pre-Nationals Camps". Evening classes will continue as scheduled during camps and fencers will be expected to participate, especially OFC Team Fencers.

\*Please note that failure to comply with the OFC Camp rules can result in the coaching staff withdrawing a Fencer from OFC Teams, private lessons and from receiving any coaching during competitions and or practice. Although Fencing itself is an individual sport, most fencers compete and train as part of a Club. And with that said, it is important that all or most Team and Recreational fencers participate in our OFC Camps as part of our preparation (especially all Pre-National, Back in Shape and Winter Camps). I would like to thank all of you in advance for your consideration and adherence to this policy.

### 14. Equipment & Armory

Team and Open Fencers are expected to have their own equipment. We place orders regularly and we'll be happy to assist new fencers to get their proper equipment. New fencers will receive an email at the end of the beginner month with information needed in order for OFC to purchase a set of equipment on behalf of the new fencer. If a new fencer in Recreational, Team or Open Fencing fails to place equipment order and begins the class, a \$45 per month will apply for equipment rental.

Occasionally fencing blades do break. If a student breaks a Club blade while in use, he or she will be responsible for the replacement cost of the blade. Fencers with their own equipment must bring two or more working blades and 2 or more body cords to practice.

Students are not permitted to use the club armory without the coaches' permission. Assistance with repairing and ordering fencing equipment may be provided upon request.

Payment for armory services will be automatically deducted using the fencer's card on file unless the fencer has paid using another method (e.g., venmo, check) ahead of time.

### 15. OFC Annual Parties

OFC will have a party at the beginning of each season during August or early September for all OFC fencers and their families. At the party, we will review the past fencing season and present our competition plan for the upcoming season. We will also have a Graduation luncheon party in May to celebrate the graduation of our High School fencers and their college acceptances. Both parties are recommended for all OFC fencers and their families to attend, it will be a great opportunity to meet and greet new OFC fencers and parents. Of course, we will eat, drink, and have a lot of fun!

## 16. OFC Referral Program

Receive 2 private lessons per each referral after referrals sign up with any of the OFC classes (except Beginner's class), Open Fencing and 1 lesson for any OFC Camps. Our OFC Alumni can fence for free during their years in college as long as they are an OFC member and have paid the annual membership fee.

## 17. Terminations

**OFC requires one month (30 days) written notice** emailed to [admin@olympianfencingclub.com](mailto:admin@olympianfencingclub.com) before a student/parent changes a class or terminates membership. Fencers who have terminated their memberships who want to rejoin are required to pay the annual membership fee. Fencers who need to temporarily suspend their membership have the option of requesting the \$50 monthly maintenance fee.