



# Lightning Fencing Club

## Code of Conduct & Policies

### General

The Lightning Fencing Club is open to anyone with an interest in promoting or engaging in the sport of fencing. However, participation at the Lightning Fencing Club is a privilege, not a right. Along with this privilege comes certain expectations of behavior by the club's members & their parents, guests, coaches and volunteers, in accordance with this Code of Conduct & Policies.

**No Discrimination:** All participants, parents & guests of the Lightning Fencing Club are to treat all other participants, parents, guests & coaches at all times and in all respects in a manner free of discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, colour, religion, gender or sexual orientation.

**Payments:** Participants are expected to promptly pay when due, all membership fees, lesson fees, competition fees, travel costs, equipment costs and any other amounts owed to the club &/or its coaches.

**Physical Safety:** Physical safety is one of the highest priorities of the Lightning Fencing Club. All participants are expected to exercise control of their actions and demeanor while fencing or otherwise participating at the club. All participants are expected to exercise good judgment as to the degree of force used in fencing, which must be appropriate to the age, size and experience level of their opponents.

**Sportsmanship:** Good sportsmanship is another of the club's highest priorities. All fencing is to be conducted in a respectful and courteous manner regardless of whether it takes place during open bouts, at a competition or during a class. All participants are expected to salute their opponent and the referee before and after each bout, and to shake hands with their opponent after each bout, in a sportsmanlike manner.

**Scoring/Referees:** In non-refereed bouts, discussions of priority and valid hits are to be resolved quickly and amicably between the participants, or thrown out. In non-electric bouts, the fencers are expected to acknowledge hits against them. In refereed bouts, the decision belongs solely to the referee and that decision is final. Fencers, parents, guests & coaches are expected to treat all referees with respect, regardless of the outcome of any particular call or bout.

**Equipment:** All participants are expected to keep any equipment owned by them in a safe condition, and are responsible for the suitability and condition of that equipment. All participants using club equipment are expected to not use any equipment that appears damaged or unsafe and to give any such equipment to an Armourer or Coach. All experienced fencers or participants continuing beyond introductory classes are expected to purchase their own equipment.

**Club Activities:** All classes and activities at the club must be treated with respect by non involved participants, parents or guests. Participants, parents & guests must not interrupt or disrupt any activity at the club or its coaches.

**Competition Conduct:** Members attending competitions represent the Lightning Fencing Club to the wider fencing community. Members are bound by these Rules, and by the MFA & CFF codes of conduct, regardless of whether it is a local, regional, national or international competition. Any fencer representing the Lightning Fencing Club who breaches these Rules or the MFA & CFF codes of conduct will be subject to disciplinary action by the club's Executive Committee.

**Ejection:** If at any time a participant or guest threatens the safety of the other participants, guests, or coaches, any member of the club's coaching or executive staff may immediately remove the threatening participant or guest from the premises. The Executive Committee will promptly determine the duration of such removal and any other penalties that are assigned.

**REVOCATION OF PRIVILEGES:** THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REVOKE THE MEMBERSHIP OR PRIVILEGES OF ANY PERSON WHO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FINDS HAS VIOLATED ANY OF THESE RULES.

## **Refund & Transfer of Membership**

Should you require a refund within the first 2 weeks of class commencement the club will be happy to accommodate less a charge of 10%.

Membership transfers are uncommon and therefore, will be handled on a case-by-case basis.