

# THE SWORD

British Fencing Magazine

JANUARY 2016

**KRUSE SECURES  
SILVER IN TURIN**



VETERAN WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 2015  
SENIOR INTERNATIONAL ROUND UP REPORT

CAITLIN MAXWELL INTERVIEW  
SHORT STORY COMPETITION RESULTS

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**Front cover image**

Kruse (GBR) left v Ma (CHN) in Turin GP 2015 Final  
Photo: Augusto Bizzi

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NEXT DEADLINE: 23rd FEBRUARY



# News

## A MESSAGE FROM BRAZIL

Preparations for the fencing at the Rio 2016 Olympics are well under way, supervised by myself Arno Périllier Schneider and my service manager Mirani Fernandes. The Fencing Hall is already 97% complete and is located at the Carioca Arena 3, in the Olympic Park. Here we have all the facilities needed for the fencing Olympic programme: warm up and pre-warm up areas, an athletes' lounge, a wireless set-up room, weapons control area, call room and all the other facilities needed to make this a memorable Olympic experience. After the Olympics these facilities will be used as a training centre for future Brazilian athletes.

Hope to see you here in Rio next year, during the Grand Prix, Olympic test event, and also for the Olympic Games.

Good Luck Britain!!!!

**Arno Périllier Schneider**  
**Rio de Janeiro President of Fencing**

\* \* \*

Many thanks to Arno for his message.

I first had the pleasure of meeting Arno during the London Olympic Games when he was observing and gathering information as part of the Rio preparations (as I myself had done in Beijing, four years earlier). I have since met up with Arno several times – most recently at the FIE Congress in China, along with Mirani – and I know they are on course for a great event.

With eight months to go before the opening ceremony this is both an exciting time and a busy one, if occasionally nerve-wracking. The Rio team will be working flat-out on their preparations in the coming months, and I feel confident that our fencers will have every facility to help them perform at their best.

I look forward to my various official visits in 2016, including advance site visits, the Grand Prix and Olympic test event, and the Olympics and Paralympics themselves. Each Games has its own distinct style, and I have no doubt that Rio will put on a fantastic show for fencing.

**Hilary Philbin**  
**British Fencing President &**  
**London 2012 Fencing Manager**

Trailer available on: 

## PHILBIN AND HUGGINS TO REPRESENT BRITISH FENCING IN RIO 2016 TECHNICAL DELEGATION



**Hilary Philbin (left) and Janet Huggins**

British Fencing is pleased to announce the FIE have confirmed that Hilary Philbin and Janet Huggins will be among the fifteen-strong technical delegation, who will oversee the fencing events at next year's Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro.

Philbin will be a member of the six-strong Directoire Technique, who has overall responsibility for the smooth running of the ten fencing events, and additionally she will take on the role of FIE Chief of Protocol.

Huggins will fulfil her role as a delegate of the SEMI Commission, who are responsible for the functionality and safety of all equipment used in the fencing venue.

Speaking about her role, the British Fencing President & London 2012 Fencing Manager Hilary Philbin said: "I am very happy to be going to Rio as an FIE Technical Official. The Olympic Games is the highlight of our international fencing calendar and I am pleased to have the opportunity to contribute to the successful outcome of our events."

Janet Huggins added: "I am delighted to have been chosen as an FIE Technical Official for the Olympic Games next year in Rio and am looking forward to helping to deliver this most prodigious fencing event."

British Fencing extends its congratulations to both Hilary and Janet for their selection to these important positions and would also like to thank UK Sport for their continued support of our International Relations programme.

19th November 2015

## VEZZALI'S OLYMPIC CAREER COMES TO AN END



**Valentina Vezzali, 2012**

The foilist Valentina Vezzali of Italy, 41, the most successful single-weapon individual fencer of all time, has just failed in her attempt to qualify for her sixth Olympic Games in Rio 2016. In the Turn World Cup event at the end of November, she reached the last 32, two stages short of the minimum points she needed to qualify, such is the strength of Italian women's foil.

In her extraordinary fencing career, Vezzali has won medals at the last five consecutive Games – three gold, one silver and one bronze. She has also won six senior individual world titles and five European championships, as well as a record 77 World Cups, to say nothing of numerous other individual and team gold medals.

Malcolm Fare

## BATH SPORTS AWARDS 2015

By ChronSport – Posted: November 12, 2015



Bath Sports Awards 2015

At the Bath Sports Awards, broadcaster John Inverdale hosted a memorable evening, which saw an award handed out to wheelchair fencer Piers Gilliver, who is on course for a place at the Rio 2016 Paralympics. Piers collected the Disability Sports Performer of the Year award, sponsored by Centurion Wealth Management (photographed here with his coach Baldip Sahota). Read more on: [🇮🇳](#)

### NEWS UPDATE

News has just come in that Baldip Sahota has been short-listed in the British Ethnic Diversity Sports Awards. He had this to say: "I'm honoured to be nominated for the BEDSA Coach of the Year Award and would like to thank my family and friends in supporting me. I look forward to attending the presentation evening and would ask that all fellow BF members support me even further by voting for me before the 24th of January at [www.bedsa.co.uk](http://www.bedsa.co.uk) under 'Professional Footballers Association Coach of the Year'."

Good luck Baldip.

## WELLINGTON SWORDS FENCING CLUB

### A GOOD YEAR FOR THE "SWORDS"

Wellington Swords Fencing Club has had cause for celebration during the 2015 fencing season. A new Head Coach was contracted to the Club in early January who has had an immediate effect on the vibrancy of the foil and epee training and professionalism over all age groups at the Club. He has brought with him new skills and a welcome touch of the Orient. Kenichi Yamamoto, who also coaches at Truro fencing club, was the Japanese National Coach for the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games and was the GB Cadet Epee Coach for the 2013 World and European Youth Championships. His pupils now include Jessica Gundry, currently No 2 in the Junior Women's National ranking and Commonwealth Gold Medal winner, Fergus McKendry and Oliver Strath – both in the top National cadet rankings – and Charlotte Follett MPAGB. Wellington also has a strong Veterans presence with Jonathan Stanbury, Lawrence Burr and Jim Pilkington regularly representing the club and the BVF at home and abroad.

Wellington Swords have hosted a number of highly successful LPJS and Open competitions during the year with particular emphasis on the younger Age Groups. These have introduced not only the younger fencers to competitions but also allowed their parents

to watch and learn about their children's chosen sport. With a new website [[www.wellingtonswords.club](http://www.wellingtonswords.club)] and a strong membership, Wellington Swords is looking forward to continuing success in the South West for 2016.



Kenichi Yamamoto (centre)



# Message from the chair

As you read this Sword, we are into an Olympic year, one with high national hopes for Team GB, and with our own qualification in full swing. Our World Class Programme has made big strides forward, as recognized by UK Sport in their support, but we all know this is competition at the highest level and it's tough. We all wish our athletes every success.

It's nice to report that we have our President, Hilary Philbin, and Janet Huggins, on the Rio Organising Committee. In recent years we have increased our international role and influence – we have other representatives of British Fencing on FIE committees. It's all part of our strategy to become one of the world's most successful fencing nations and communities.

Domestically, competition is busy at all levels. On behalf of the Board, I'm grateful for the huge volunteer effort that makes our sport work, across the UK, and helps us grow. I hope many of you are finding the new website sections for Cadets and Juniors helpful. We know we need to improve all parts of our effort. Do keep telling us about areas and issues where we can improve the national service and effort.

In these Sword Messages, I try as Chair to brief you on current Board and Head Office matters. We are still in very challenging times, with continued uncertainty about funding. The public funding from Sport England and UK Sport is our major income source and, in the last year, there have been key Government reviews of both bodies (of their *raison d'être* and effectiveness) from which they have

emerged with their roles enhanced. The sport sector anticipated cuts from the Chancellor in his Autumn statement, but UKS and SE received good news – a relief for all sports governing bodies like BF.

Then, just before Christmas, the Dept for Culture Media & Sport published a new strategy for sport, the first for a decade. This contains ground breaking changes, which right now we are still evaluating; and it will be followed by a new Sport England strategy in, we think, the Spring. The DCMS strategy document contains over 40 recommendations for Sport England to work on. Let me mention just three key points;-

- Sport England's remit is extended to over 5 year olds (compared to over 14s now);
- Future emphasis must be on getting the physically inactive into sport;
- Bodies getting public funding will have a range of targets, not just increasing participation.

I must close this Message by thanking our partners Beazley for their terrific contributions to our sport, in the last five years. They have been great partners, giving first class support and advice, and essential funding. We shall all miss them greatly.



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# Kruse Secures Turin Grand Prix Silver *with photos by* Augusto Bizzi

## WORLD RANKING BOOST FOR LONDONER



**Kruse win Silver**

Londoner, Richard Kruse, 32, boosted his world ranking by securing the silver medal at the Turin Men's Foil Grand Prix in November. He faced Jianfei Ma (CHN) in the final and despite keeping it close during the first two periods, the Chinese fencer pulled away in the final three minutes to take the title with a 15-11 victory.

Speaking straight after the medal ceremony Kruse said; "The standard of men's foil is very high at the moment. I had lots of close fights and I was close to winning but I'm pleased with my performances to get second place."

Kruse had to beat two teammates on his way to the podium. In the round of 16 he just beat Marcus Mepstead, 9-8 before taking out James Davis, 15-13, in the quarterfinals. He followed that with a 15-10 semi-final victory over Kwanghyun Lee (KOR).



**Kruse defeats Mepstead in the last 16**

British Fencing's Performance Director, Alex Newton was happy with the results in Italy and said; "I am delighted with all of the performances from the three athletes today. It is great news that we had three fencers in the top sixteen and it shows the strength of the individuals making up the current foil team."

Great Britain are targeting qualifying a men's foil team for Rio 2016 and are currently in a tight battle which looks like it's going down to the wire. Should they not succeed, Kruse's result today puts him contention for individual qualification.

**KB**

**29th November 2015**



**Turin podium photograph**

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# Senior International Round Up

By our special correspondent

*Editor's Note: To make the most of Karim's excellent article you may wish to refer to his piece on 'Olympic Qualifications Explained' in the October 2015 issue of The Sword.*

The 2015–16 has begun and like the fencers and federations, our focus shifts to the job of qualifying for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

## Men's Epee

With men's team epee on the schedule at Rio2016 we'll first take a look at the team performances so far this year. Berne, Switzerland, was the location of the first World Cup in this discipline and it was Russia that came out on top, ahead of France, Italy and ranked outsiders, Canada. Ukraine, Switzerland and Korea, who currently occupy three of the four automatic qualification spots were all unable to make it past the round of 16. The series moved on to Tallin in Estonia where France took the gold from Italy, Switzerland and Ukraine. Again the Korean team were eliminated in the round of 16.

France are still fifty points clear at the top of the world rankings and would have to give up around one hundred points to fall out of the automatic spots. Ranked second in the world, Ukraine's 56 point lead over Russia (in fifth) and their current form makes them strong favourites to also achieve automatic qualification. The final two automatic spots are still all to play for with Korea in third on 280 points, Switzerland fourth on 278 points, Russia fifth on 254 points and Italy sixth on 236 points. Hungary (7th) and Germany (8th) are still in touching distance but would need a tremendous set of results to overhaul the teams above them to steal an automatic spot.

With the top four teams in the world qualifying automatically attention shifts to the remaining four automatic zonal spots. Remember, in order to qualify for one of these spots, teams still have to be ranked in the top 16 in the world. Here's a summary of the current situation by zone:

## Africa

Egypt (112pts) and Morocco (100pts) are unlikely to break into the top 16 in the World rankings so the smart money will be on the fourth or fifth highest European team to qualify and that will depend on whether Korea can stay in the top four of the World rankings.

## Americas

This is likely to be a straight fight-off between Venezuela (187pts) and the USA (171pts) but

after Canada's performance in Berne it will be interesting to see if they can build on the points tally of 150.

## Asia & Oceania

- If Korea drop out of the top four teams in the World they are almost certain to pick up the Asian zonal spot
- If Korea remain in the top four in the World then the fight will be between Kazakhstan (178pts) and Japan (166pts). China (128pts) is not mathematically out of the running but are outside of the top 16 at the time of writing.

## Europe

One or possibly two of Switzerland, Russia, Italy, Hungary and Germany will qualify by virtue of being in the top four in the World on qualification day. It's almost certain that the next highest European team will be fifth or sixth on the ranking list and will therefore pick up this spot for Rio 2016. This is going to be an exciting battle for sure.

There are some additional individual spots available, once the qualified teams have been confirmed but at this stage the permutations are numerous. That said, individual fencers from all of the European teams above will be keen to secure as many points as they can in the remaining individual events.

## Women's Epee

It's all about team results again for this discipline. The Russian team picked up the first gold medal of the season in the Italian city of Legnano, from Romania, USA and France. Russia made it back-to-back gold medals at the next event in Nanjing, China as Korea came second, the USA third and China fourth.

With every team in the top ten of the World ranking having had a top four finish in the past twelve months it's still too early to make a call on who will qualify automatically. However, Romania sits at the top of the rankings with China just behind them. In the unlikely event that they were to drop outside of the automatic qualifying positions they are certain to pick up the zonal spots for Europe and Asia, respectively. Nonetheless, here's a summary of the situation by zone:

## Africa

South Africa (100pts) sit in nineteenth spot and would have to have some remarkable

results to reach the top sixteen. Therefore it is unlikely that there will be an African team in the event so the next highest team not qualified will make the Games.

## Americas

The USA are almost certain to qualify a team for this event and will be strongly supported by the Venezuelans who will want them to make the top four in the World rankings. If the USA can achieve that and Venezuela can stay in the top 16 then we may well see two teams from the Americas in Rio – something that every neutral will be praying for!

## Asia & Oceania

China is a strong favourite to stay in the top four in the World rankings and thus pick up an automatic spot. Should they do that then Korea will pick up the extra Asia & Oceania spot.

## Europe

Romania, Russia and Italy currently reside in the top four of the World rankings and with a 44-point gap separating Italy from France (ranked 7th) it's likely that we'll see them in Rio. France, of course will have other ideas so will now have two clear targets, namely, hunt down a top four spot whilst staying ahead of Sweden, Ukraine and Estonia (their closest rivals for the extra European spot).

With team qualification far from clear it is yet again difficult to consider who might qualify for the individual event. However, as long as she stays fit then we are sure to see Sarra Besbes (TUN) compete in the individual event in Rio.

## Men's Foil

It's all about the team results again and France began the season well with a victory at the first team World Cup in San Jose, USA. Japan were second, USA third and Italy fourth. At the second event in Tokyo, the USA took the title from France, China and Great Britain.

Fifty-eight points splits the top five in the World rankings with France (352pts) leading the way from Russia (344pts), the USA (332pts), Italy (324pts) and China (294pts). With sixth placed Japan (223pts) a further sixty-one points behind it's almost certain that the automatic qualification spots will go to four of the top five teams. That makes for interesting speculation about which teams will pick up the zonal spots. Here's a quick summary:



Rank	Points	Name	Qualified
1	352	FRANCE	AUTOMATIC
2	344	RUSSIA	ASIAN
3	332	USA	EUROPEAN
4	324	ITALY	AFRICAN
5	294	CHINA	AMERICA
6	233	JAPAN	
7	221	GREAT BRITAIN	
8	211	EGYPT	
9	207	KOREA	
10	204	GERMANY	
11	169	BRAZIL	
12	166	CANADA	
13	166	POLAND	
14	164	UKRAINE	
15	159	HONG KONG	
16	115	BELARUS	

## Africa

Egypt sits eighth in the rankings and whilst they are unlikely to break into the top four they are the highest ranked African team and a good bet to stay inside the top 16. We are likely to see them competing at Rio 2016.

## Americas

The form of the USA team suggest that they are likely to stay inside the top four. If that happens then there is a titanic battle going on between Brazil (169pts) and Canada (166pts) who both sit inside the top 16.

## Asia & Oceania

If China remains in fifth place, they will pick up their zonal qualification spot for Asia & Oceania. However, they are in contention to break into the top four which means attention will turn to the battle between Japan (233pts) and Korea (207pts). It's all to play for in this zone.

## Europe

Qualification for this zone is possibly the most intriguing and certainly the most observed from a British perspective. The recent form of the French team suggests that they will stay in the top four. Italy has had one "good" results and one not so "good" result (by their standards) in the first two events. If that continues then it's likely that they will remain in the top four. The Russian team have been conspicuous by their absence at the top of the results tables in the last two events. If that dip in form continues then it's very likely that the door will open for China to sneak into the top four. That said, China have had similar performances to Italy and would need to up their game to seize on any opportunity that may be presented.

Put simply if the three European teams currently in the top four of the World rankings stay there, then the additional European spot will be a straight fight-off between Great Britain and Germany – more on this shortly. If one of those European teams drops outside

of the top four then they are still likely to go to Rio 2016 by picking up that European zone spot.

Looking at the situation from a British perspective, men's team foil qualification rests on France, Russia and Italy staying in the top four of the World rankings. If that happens then we must stay above Germany to pick up the European zone spot. There are many ways to consider the situation but perhaps the most simple is to compare the current ranking points of each team but deduct the points the teams won at the corresponding fixtures last year, namely the Paris and Bonn World Cups. Given that the international ranking lists is based on rolling points, this will give us a clear indication of the teams' comparative points today and a clear guide on how Great Britain must perform in the two events that remain ahead of the qualification date.

Great Britain is currently on 221pts and won a total of 64pts in Paris and Bonn last year, meaning their net points tally is 157. Germany is currently on 204pts and won a total of 58pts in Paris and Bonn last year, giving them a net points tally of 147pts.

With this slender ten-point margin and given the current form of both teams it is impossible to predict who will finish higher in the World rankings. The only thing that can be said with any certainty is that both teams will be hoping that the France, Russia and Italy all stay in the top four!

At this stage, with team qualification unclear it would be premature to analyse who will pick up the additional individual qualifying spots.

## Women's Foil

With no team event in this discipline in Rio next year one must consider the Adjusted (Individual) Olympic Rankings. This is fairly complicated but you can find a full explanation in the October 2015 issue of this magazine. Once you've applied the rules printed in that issue you will discover that only Elisa Di Francisca (ITA), Inna Deriglazova (RUS), Arianna Errigo (ITA), Ysaora Thibus (FRA) and Lee Kiefer (USA) have unassailable leads in terms of World ranking and being placed in the top 14 of the AOR. A direct consequence is that the fencers currently ranked 11th (Vezzali), 12th (Volpi) and 14th (Batini) in the World will not be at next year's Olympic Games because only two Italians can take part.

## Men's Sabre

As with women's foil, there is no men's team sabre event at next year's Olympics so we must assess the AOR. At the time of writing there were still three events left before the qualification cut-off including the Boston Grand Prix. However there were three Germans and three Russians in the AOR and only two from each country can compete. Somewhat surprisingly there were no Italians in the automatic qualification spots but both Montano and Curatoli may still be in Rio if

they can put in decent performances over the coming months. Other than that it's way too early to make a call for this discipline.

## Women's Sabre

The final discipline to consider is one that again requires us to review the team results and rankings. Russia won the first event of the season in Caracas followed by Ukraine, Poland and Italy. The big surprise at this event was when the Dominican Republic eliminated the American team in the round of 16. The second event in Orleans saw Ukraine overcoming Russia in the final with France beating Italy to the bronze medal. Again the American team under-performed (if measured by their World ranking) by going out in the quarterfinals. Given the relative form and current rankings it looks likely that the current top six in the World (Russia, Ukraine, France, the USA, Italy and Korea) are likely to line up in the field at the Olympics next year. Nonetheless, here's a summary by zone:

### AFRICA

There are currently no African teams in the top 16 in the World but it's possible (unlikely but possible) that Tunisia can sneak into a qualifying position. On the basis that they don't the highest team not yet qualified with be competing in Rio.

### AMERICAS

The alarming drop in form put the USA's automatic qualification in doubt but they are streets ahead of the next best team in their zone (Mexico) in terms of ranking points. Therefore even if they do drop out of the top four in the World they'll still be competing in Rio. Mexico will be the recipient of the Americas zonal spot if the USA can maintain their current ranking.

### ASIA & OCEANIA

Korea still has a chance to make it into the top four in the World rankings and therefore qualify automatically. If they do then China will pick up the Asia & Oceania zonal spot. If they don't then Korea will occupy that spot.

### EUROPE

Whilst it's still all to play for here, current form suggests that Russia and Ukraine have all but secured their berths at the 2016 Olympic Games in this discipline. Whilst Italy are in a tussle with France to secure qualification by virtue of being in the top four in the World rankings, both are far enough ahead of the next European team (Poland) that you should expect to see both of them competing in Rio.

Qualification by World ranking takes place on 4th April 2016.



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# Elite Epee Events

By Chris Howser

## ELITE EPEE JUNIOR SERIES EVENT 1

On the 31st October the new season for the Elite Epee Junior Series saw some high quality fencing from the 148 fencers attending at City of London Freeman's school in Surrey, in what is believed to be the biggest EEJS event run to date.

With a sensible 10am first check-in close to allow travel on the day for as many of the competitors as possible, the Under 16 Girls, Under 13 Boys and Under 11 Girls events started the day off.

As last year's British Under 10 champion and top seed, in the Under 11 Girls event, Ellie Loo from the Knightsbridge club went into the event with form on her side and she continued her strong showing, winning her 6 first round fight with a loss of just 11 hits and continuing that form through the DE rounds with clear wins to the final. The final was a tighter affair with her club mate, Charlotte Lattanzio, pushing her to a close 10-8 score, however Ellie still coming out on top to take gold from a field of 14.



Under 11 Girls

The Boys Under 13 event (29 entries) was going to be very open affair, with the top 8 from last season's Under 13 points race

having all moved up into the Under 16s. The first round saw only one fencer win all their matches with Knightsbridge's Toby Berry taking the top seed into the Direct Elimination Rounds. However, the DE created a shock in the last 8, with Cheslea's Renzo Levi knocking out the top seed to make it into the last 8. However it turned out to be OPS Epee Club's William Ferguson's day, with a strong 10-3 win over Renzo to make the final from the top half of the draw. In the bottom half the 2nd seed after the poules, Mark Taylor from CLFS, was taking advantage of his home event and apart from a single point win in the last 8 against Stockport's Nicholas Grimshaw scythed through the field to make the final with clear wins. The final ended up being the match of the day with Mark and William trading points all the way to 9-9, however William pulled out an accurate attack to take the win and win his first ever EEJS gold.



Under 13 Boys

The Under 16 Girls event (30 entries) was going to be interesting with a strong group of last year's Under 13s moving up an age and causing problems for the existing Under 16s. The first round saw only 2 fencers winning all their matches with Abigail Watkins (RGS Worcester) and Maia Henderson-Roe (CADS) taking the top 2 seeds going into the Direct Elimination. High seeds after round 1 however do not guarantee medals at the end of the day with only Mia making the semi finals out of the top 4 seeds after the poules, where she was joined by 24th seed Katie-May Parsons (Millfield), 13th seed Messina Herrling (Knightsbridge) and 6th seed Alys Edwards (Redhill & Reigate). Messina won her Semi against Katie-May 15-12, with Alys winning

15-11 against Maia to set up a Messina vs Alys final where Messina prevailed 15-8. This is a particularly impressive performance as Messina only moved up from the Under 13s this year.



Under 16 Girls

The Under 11 boys' event (21 entries) had a strong favourite from the start, with Alec Brooke from Knightsbridge club having been the leader of the Under 11 points race last season and also is the current British Under 10 champion. He showed this form throughout the first round winning all his matches with the loss of only 3 points to take top seed with Davide Palano also taking all wins. With strong fencing throughout Alec and Davide were joined by Redhill & Reigate's Liam Kew (4th after poules) and Chelsea's Niccolo Bianchi (6th). The semi finals saw Alec having to fence to his absolute best, however was able to just scrape through 10-9 against Laim to join Niccolo (10-7 win) in the final where Alec carried on in style to take another title to add to his impressive list of event wins.



Under 11 Boys



The Under 13 Girls' event (16 entrants) also had a strong pre-event favourite, with Henriette Hadalin (Salle Hadalin), who led the Under 13 points race last season staying down in the Under 13 event. Though Henriette lost 1 fight in the poules, she ended up 2nd seed with Plymouth's Abagael Black winning all her matches to take top seed into the DEs. Seeding went to plan with this event with Abagael and Henriette being joined by Isabella Summers (3rd seed) and Sophia Kalimtgis (4th) in the semi finals. Everything kept to seeding even in the semis with Abagael (10-5) and Henriette (4-1) winning, however the favourite tag followed Henriette in the final with a very tactical match ending 3-0 with non-combatively being called in each period.



Under 13 Girls

The final event of the day saw 38 Under 16 boys match off. Tarriq Roach again went into the event with a favourite tag having led last year's Under 16 points race. However with most of last year's under 16s having not gone out of the top of this age-group and a strong cohort having moved up from the Under 13s this was likely to be an interesting event. With 4 fencers winning all their first round poule fights (Patrick Carey – TCSA, Jacob Foulsham – Redhill & Reigate, Patrick Sroka – TCSA,

Steven Macpherson – Bexley) Tarriq was 5th after surprisingly dropping a fight. Tarriq's experience now shone through with wins of 15-6, 15-5, 15-5, 15-6 and 15-2 to take the title. The other really notable result was Jacob Foulsham who only moved up from the Under 13s to take 2nd place in the Under 16s. Bronze medals went to Patrick Carey and Murray Begley-Jones.

With the whole competition completed by 7pm, the event ran smoothly with thanks to the great group of referees and helpers. Thanks to all.



Under 16 Boys

## ELITE EPEE MEN'S AUTUMN OPEN

With 99 fencers attending including all of the top 10 of the October rankings attending, this was going to be a very strong event.

With the use of the world cup event format the top 16 seeds had a bye to the last 64, with all the other fencers competing in the first round with 12 poules. The first round saw 6 fencers with all wins, with Nick Beaumont leading the way losing only 8 hits whilst scoring 30 to record a +22 indicator. World Cup format then gives the top 16 from the poule round a bye to the last 16, with all the other promoted fencers (64) fighting off to fill in the 33rd to 64th spots in the last 64 tableaux.

This format has in the past created mayhem for the top 16 seeds coming straight in at the last 64 against well warmed up opponents, with several usually getting knocked out in their first DE. On this occasion however only a single top 16 fencer succumbed with Michael Geary making it through to the last 32 from 50th seed against the number 13 seed.

The last 32 saw many of the top fencers from the poules meeting the pre-event top 16 fencers and Nick Beaumont started causing real damage to the top seeds beating the 16th seed (Jason Scrimshaw) then Number 1 seed Phil Marsh on his way to the last 8. Pentathlete and former Redhill & Reigate fencer, Sam Curry, also showed great form beating 6th seed Greg Allen in the Last 32 followed by Callum Maynard (11th seed) in the last 16 to also make the 8.

The change in form on the day and biggest surprise came from Cadet fencer, James Russell, who went into the event ranked 83rd on the senior rankings and having only won 3 out of 6 matches in the first round he had to do DE matches from the last 96 onwards. However, wins against James Wake 15-13 (last 96), Neale Mallett 10-9 (last 64), Benjamin Schneider 15-9 (L32), 3rd Seed Harrison Nichols 15-11(L16) and Sam Curry (15-14) took James all the way to the Semi Finals where he was joined by 8th Seed Tom Edwards (Redhill & Reigate), 5th seed Matthew Henderson (Leon Paul Epee) and 2nd seed Tomas Curren-Jones (Brixton). James's was starting to show some signs of having to fence in every round as he met Tomas in the Semi and was beaten 15-7, however the match between Tom Edwards and Matthew was a much closer affair ending 10-9 at end of time.

In the final Tom showed the great form which has secured him Commonwealth bronze medals and the British Men's Championship in the last year to win the final in style to a 15-7 score-line to win his first Elite Epee Men's title. A video of the final is available to be watched via the [www.elitepee.com](http://www.elitepee.com) website in the Men's open area (as well as many of our past event finals).

Chris Howser

# Veterans' World Championships

2015 with photos from Gillian Aghajan



Photo montage: (top left) Tony and Paul, Pete, Viv (bottom left) Bill, then the Men's Foil Team Champions – top left: Malcolm, Richard, John – bottom left: Graham, Brian, Paul.

Britain won two gold medals, three silver and a bronze at this year's world championships in Limoges. Paul Wedge started the ball rolling by winning the 31-strong individual men's foil category B (60-69). All the Brits in this category put in strong performances – Graham Paul and Steve Fox made the quarter-finals, while Wedge and Tony Bartlett faced off in the final. Both men fence each other regularly at the Lansdowne Club and on this occasion Bartlett raced ahead, using his speedy footwork and neat hand to build up a 5-0 lead. Slowly Wedge began to find his form, but was still 3-8 down as the end of the second period approached. A flurry of attacks from both sides and two crisp ripostes from Wedge saw him equalise at 9-all as time expired. In the minute of extra time, he took advantage of a tentative attack from Bartlett to launch a successful counter-attack and add a world title to his European gold.

Wedge and Brian Causton took the leading roles in GB's stunning victory in the men's foil team event. Seeded second after the results of the individual competitions, the team consisted of three fencers and three reserves, two each from categories A 50-59 (John Troiano & Richard Sage), B 60-69 (Paul Wedge & Graham Paul) and C 70+ (Brian Causton & Malcolm Fare). As fresh arrivals in their respective categories, Wedge and Causton were the team's strongest fencers as Britain beat France and Russia in the poules and then knocked out Japan 30-20 in the quarter-finals. They met Russia again in the semi-finals by which time Causton was fading, having chalked up 36 hits in the team's previous three matches. But in the last bout he just held off the cat. C world champion, Gari Aftandilov, to win by one hit. GB then met top seeds Germany in the final. Despite a strained muscle in his left leg, Wedge hammered out

19 hits in his two sessions and Causton, after being rested for the first leg, stormed back in the last bout to crush his opposite number 10-3 and seal Britain's first world team gold by 30-24.

The 49-strong cat. C men's epee saw the arrival of GB's second silver medal, as defending world champion Bill Osbaldeston rode his luck with three last-hit DE victories to reach the final against Suchanek (GER). Both fencers probed cautiously until the final minute when the German edged ahead and then defended strongly to win 5-2, leaving Osbaldeston with silver.

Vivian Frith delivered our third silver medal in the cat. B women's sabre. Seeded 5th after the first round in her 24-strong event, she knocked out Bender (USA) 10-8 in the quarter-finals and then former champion Aubailly (FRA) by the same score in the semis to reach the final where she met reigning world champion Jane Eyre (USA), who had beaten her in the semi-finals last year. Eyre again proved too strong and Frith had to be content with silver.

Peter Baron won bronze in the 27-strong cat. C men's sabre. Thirteenth seed after poules, he took out Aussedat (FRA) 10-8 and then fourth seed Bianchini (ITA) 10-7 to reach the quarter-finals against Bill Osbaldeston, an encounter he won 10-7 before going out by the same score in the semi-finals to Pinkus (USA).

Narrowly missing out on a medal by one hit were Brian Causton and Malcolm Fare (cat. C men's foil), Janet Cooksey (cat. C women's foil) and Andy Bornemisza (cat. C men's sabre). Connie Adam continued to defy the years, 17 years older than some of her cat. C women's sabre opponents, yet winning two fights in her poule and then her first DE 10-6 against Kitami (JPN), a mere 74, to finish eighth at the age of 87.



Connie Adam

Malcolm Fare



# IWAS World Championships

## Eger Hungary 2015

### Silver Medals for Wheelchair Fencers!

Piers Gilliver Cat A Men's Épée demonstrated a solid performance in the poule rounds before progressing through to an exciting Semi Final where he demolished his opponent Tian (CHN) with an impressive 15-5 victory with some well timed and accurate attacks.

He then went on to meet Sun (CHN) in an extremely tight final where every point was a match in itself. Gilliver fought hard against Sun (CHN) to level at 14-14 but narrowly missed out on taking the last point.

In the Foil Men's Cat B event 17 yrs old Dimitri Coutya kept a cool head as he worked his way

through to a Semi Final against Feng (CHN). No match at this stage is ever going to be easy, not least this one as Coutya trailed 7-2, but some intelligent, well thought out fencing provided a nail biting come back resulting in a well deserved victory 15-13

In the final Coutya faced Hu (CHN) where again he fought hard, working for every point, with very little to separate them. However in the end Hu managed to edge forwards, to a victory 15-12

Two Silver medals at a World Championship event is the best ever result by GB at a Wheelchair Fencing event of this standard. Team leader Shuna Body said that it was a wonderful achievement, brought about by sheer hard work and determination, and said that it was a promising progression towards Rio 2016.

At the next World Cup in Paris Dimitri Coutya ensured that GB were still on the podium by securing a well-deserved Bronze medal



**"Wheelchair Fencers take on the World"**  
(top L to R) Najib Coutya, Shuna Body, Baldip Sahota, Laszlo Jakab, (bottom L to R) Dimitri Coutya, Piers Gilliver, Gemma Collis

### WHEELCHAIR FENCING

Originally devised at Stoke Mandeville Hospital, U.K., competitive wheelchair fencing was first introduced in 1953 and has been a Paralympic sport since. Wheelchair Fencing was an inaugural sport at the first Paralympic Games, 1960 in Rome, mainly because Ludwig Guttmann, who founded the Paralympic Games was a fencer himself and immensely proud of a duelling scar which he received at University. Although popular in Europe since its inception, Far Eastern countries such as China, Malaysia and Hong Kong are now regularly topping the medal table at major competitions – alongside Great Britain !

#### How does it differ from Able-Bodied Fencing?

Unlike able-bodied fencing, wheelchair fencing is static: the fencers are clamped to the piste on a metal frame. Beyond this, the sport is largely similar to its able-bodied counterpart.

Fencers are classified according to their level of ability. Class A fencers have full sitting balance, and many can still stand or even walk. Those in the B Class don't have full sitting balance but do have full use of their arms and hands, whilst C Class fencers do not have full arm and/or hand activity. Historically Wheelchair Fencers were expected to compete in 2 weapons – to justify the running of a competition. However now that the sport has grown significantly, only one weapon is required, although many choose to fence two.

Fencing is one of the few personal combat sports that can be successfully practised from a wheelchair. The rules are exactly the same as in the able-bodied sport with a few minor additions to cover the complications of fighting from a chair. In team events at least one of the fencers needs to be a Class B.

The wheelchair fencer is clamped down at the appropriate distance and angle from the opponent which means that neither can get out of range during the bout. This makes for exciting, intense and tough competition demanding high levels of concentration with the slightest error resulting in defeat.

Fencing has developed widely around the World and the Association provides fencers to represent Great Britain at International, World and Paralympic Competitions. There are also events for the novice and junior fencer, with U17 and U23 International competition and National Championships. There are over 50 Wheelchair Fencing nations registered, with newcomers eg South Africa very much on the way.

Great Britain has enjoyed recent success in 2014/2015 with 6 Golds, 3 Silvers and 4 Bronzes at International competition, culminating in 2 Silver medals at the recent World Championships. So the road to Rio is looking promising.

The BDFA run training weekends bi monthly for all levels of ability, together with bespoke training from time to time. Anyone interested to find out more, or attend a training session; please contact [info@bdfa.org.uk](mailto:info@bdfa.org.uk).

SB

# Three of the Best (Part 2)

It was at the instigation of Allan Jay that we decided to commission three articles on leading figures in British fencing from the last century: Bill Hoskyns, Gillian Sheen and Allan Jay himself. The article on Bill Hoskyns was published in the previous issue of *The Sword*. Part 2 follows and Part 3 (about Allan) will appear in the next issue

Editor

## GILLIAN SHEEN

### 'Lady Olympic Foil Champion'\* by Herself

\*I came across a copy of Instructions to Young Fencers (1958) by Gillian Sheen, in which she was aptly described in this manner. Editor



Gillian Sheen

I was 11 years old when World War II broke out and I was at school at Francis Holland School in London. As the bombing in London increased my parents wanted me to be out of harm's way so, after several moves from place to place I ended up at North Foreland Lodge School in Gloucester. It was here that I was introduced to fencing.

The school had a wonderful fencing coach by the name of Karel Pollak who was incredibly strict, and we as school girls did not appreciate at that time! However, to his credit 2 out of the 3 places on the 1952 Olympic team were his pupils-Patricia Buller Ashmore and me.

The war years curtailed fencing competitions and when peace came they were revived by the prewar fencers of the Amateur Fencing Association. I entered the school girls championship in 1946 which I won. Then I was invited to join the London Fencing Club where I was taught by Professor Leon Bertrand, with whom I stayed for the rest of my fencing career. It was here that I went most evenings to fence with the other members of the club and take lessons from "Punch" as Professor Bertrand was known. By now I was a student

at London University where I studied to become a dentist, but most of my free time was spent fencing. Even my holidays were centered around fencing competitions. As we were strict amateurs, we had to pay for all our equipment and our overseas trips.

At home I won the Desprez Cup and then the national championships for the first time. Over the years I was to go on and win the championships 10 times, which is a record which still stands and is in the Guinness Book of Records-a fact of which I am very proud. [a record since equalled by Louise Bond-Williams at sabre and Georgina Usher at epee.]

In 1950 a team of us took part in a large competition in Monte Carlo and for me it was an eye opener to watch the judges being intimidated by the most successful fencers. One of the most memorable competitors was Eduardo Mangiarotti, a handsome and outstanding foilist who, when a hit was given against him would whip off his mask and with eyes upturned to heaven looked as if he was whispering to God "Oh Lord, what fools these judges are!" Being so talented it often worked to intimidate the judges for the rest of the fight. Not to be outdone, the ladies had their share of characters and I can remember competitors from Austria, Hungary and France who would make a show of taking extra time to go en garde again after a decision against them. That was their silent protest and if they were well known it usually worked. It was time for the electric foil-but we had to wait a few more years.

In 1952 we had the Anglo Danish match in Copenhagen which we won and this was followed by the Scandinavian championships which I also won so it was with reasonable confidence that I went to Helsinki for Olympics. In 1952 the Russians were still prevented from traveling when and where they wanted to and were not expected to take part in the Olympics. However, at the last moment the Russians did enter but were not allowed to stay in the Olympic village with the other competitors. So, they were housed in the women's village and we women were moved out and housed in the nurse's home in the city.

The women's fencing was dominated by the French, Italians and Austrians and my inexperience showed and I was eliminated early. At this point I received a postcard from my brother Barry with a map of Australia, and he marked Melbourne with a pin through it stating this is the location of the next Olympics. I was thinking that I would never make an Olympic team again.

Over the next few years I trained hard and entered as many overseas competitions as I could. In the spring of 1956, Bill Hoskyns (future world Epee Champion) asked me if I would join Allan Jay and himself to fly to Budapest in his private plane. I was delighted but my parents did not share my enthusiasm. My father was even more apprehensive when we picked Bill up at the Lansdowne Club to give him a ride to the airport. He had only been in the car 10 minutes when he asked my father to turn back as he had left the flight plans at the club! However, after that we made our way to the airport and it was my turn to be apprehensive when I saw the size of the plane and the grass field from which we were to take off. Added to that when we gave Bill our luggage he unzipped the side of the plane. At this point there was no turning back and I tucked myself in to the backseat with foils and epees all around me while Bill and Allan sat up front and designated me their "air hostess." I remember friends teasing me before we left saying "as long as you get halfway across the English Channel you'll be alright as we can coast down to France." However, I did feel relieved when we were halfway across the Channel. We didn't go far over France and Bill flew down effortlessly and we had a celebration at supper that night. The first leg of our journey was over. The next day out we took off with more confidence and after more hops across Europe we arrived in Vienna where we met up with the other English fencers. They had flown in by commercial aircraft and planned on taking the train to Budapest as no commercial aircraft were allowed to cross the Iron Curtain. However Bill Allan and I planned to fly into Budapest, we were only the first private plane allowed to do that. So the next day after a night in Vienna, we said goodbye to the rest of the team and made our way to the airport. I must say that I did feel nervous when the final words from the Austrian control tower were "Goodbye and good luck".

Not surprisingly the airport and the terminal building at the airport were small and there were no other aircraft on the ground. We were met by our guide, Bertie, who was a big solid chap whom we nicknamed "our spy" as he never left our side from breakfast to bedtime. He was always polite and often had meals with us. It was interesting that he said that Hungarians had been overrun by both Germans and Russians but he said "Give me the Russians any day".

Budapest is a lovely city in an idyllic setting. However, in the post war era, the buildings



were still pock-marked by artillery shells and the hotel where we stayed had not been updated since the 1920s. We were in Budapest for about a week without any outstanding fencing results and then the rest of the team left by train. We three packed our bags and Bertie drove us out to the airport where Bill went to get the flight plans, Allan went to the only airport shop to spend his 'small change' and I was whisked off to the ladies room by a uniformed official. She and I were completely alone and she asked me if I would smuggle some papers requesting books on flying and take them to Foyles bookstore in London. I didn't open the package but stuffed it down my bra. When we emerged from the room we were met by Bill who said that there was no chance of flying today on account of the weather. It looked fine to me but Bertie drove us back to our hotel where we stayed until the next morning. Once again we packed up and were driven to the airport. Once again we were denied our departure due to bad weather. That was hard to believe as it looked fine. We were beginning to get anxious. Again Bertie drove us back to the city. He took us to a café which was obviously popular as there was a long line outside. Bertie walked right in and was immediately given a table and instant service. He was obviously a person of influence in the occupying power. We had another night at the hotel and Bertie drove us out to the airport again. This time Bill came back to us with good news; we were going to be allowed to fly. We got back in the plane, taxied out to the runway and finally took off. We didn't relax completely until we were safely over the border on our way to Vienna. Once back in London I delivered the package to Foyles bookstore and I was glad to get rid of it. Six months later Hungary staged an uprising from the Soviet Block and I often wondered if the flying instructions had been of any help.

Upon my return to London, we renewed training for the World Championship in Rome where the electric foil was used for the first time. I came up against many of the European and Russian fencers who I was beginning to know and I was able to advance to the semifinals. The next year, the Olympics were held in Australia but there was still no team event for women. Consequently, the women's team event was held in London in October 1956. By now I was in top form and won all of my fights including one against the Russian Champion, Valentina Rostorova, who was favored to win a medal in Melbourne.

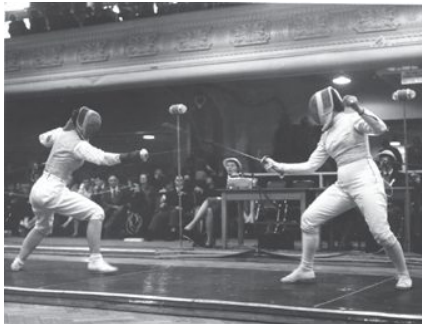
All this time we were still amateurs but we were subsidized for the Olympics and it was wonderful to have our uniform and expenses paid for.

In 1956 Australia seemed a long distance away and I was thinking that I would never go there again. It was now that I made plans to stay on after the games. To give you an idea of travel at that time it took our team from November 6 to November 11 to reach Melbourne after stops in New York, Denver, San Francisco, Honolulu, Canton, Fiji, Sydney and Melbourne.



### 1956 – Olympic Champion

Our quarters in the Olympic Village were good. We were assigned to small houses surrounding the main eating area. Here each country had its own dining hall to cater to the various dietary needs. There were also saunas and other health facilities nearby. However, the women of all countries were housed in an enclosed area surrounded by a high wire fence and a sentry on duty at the entrance. How times have changed! The local joke was that only the pole vaulters had any fun.



### 1956 – Sheen attacks Garilhe in the Olympic final

The women's foil event was a two day event. I made it through to the second day. At the time having to decline an invitation to a party that evening aboard the Royal Yacht seemed such a sacrifice but in retrospect it was well worth it! The British team turned out to support me during the finals, which was wonderful, but I started out badly losing my first fight against Olga Orban of Romania. After that I won all my other fights and as Olga Orban lost a fight to Renee Garhile of France but won all her other fights, we tied for first place. As we were to have a fight off, the Romanian supporters could hardly contain their excitement while the British supporters were typically restrained. As I got up to fence the fight off I was still 'in the zone' and not a bit nervous. I won the first two hits, then Olga hit me to make it 2-1. I then won the next hit, however Olga stormed back to make it 3-2. When I landed the next hit for a 4-2 victory, I hardly had time to shake Olga's hand before the British team was all over me. What a moment that was. Soon afterwards came the presentation ceremony and I will never forget standing on the dais being presented with the Olympic gold medal and watching the Union Jack being raised to the sound of the National Anthem. It was so moving that it brought tears to my eyes-it really was unforgettable.

I stayed on after the games to go to New Zealand and returned to the United Kingdom by boat. I did not reach England until February 1957. Upon my return to England, life had changed for me with celebrations and many civic events. Although I returned to compete and won the National Championships again, I never trained with the same fervor.



### 1956 – Sheen with C-L de Beaumont

When a friend of my father's heard that the World Championships in 1958 were to be held in Philadelphia, he insisted on paying my fare. Only Bill Hoskyns and I entered the competition. I came in a disappointing seventh place; however I was there to see Bill win the Men's World Epee Championship. It was a popular win, as this good looking, charming Englishman won the hearts of the American audience and was being compared to the film star Gregory Peck! It was while I was in America I met my future husband. I tried to persuade him to move to England, but this was one I lost.

While in Philadelphia I was asked to take part in the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto, and to fence none other than Eduardo Mangiarotti in a "man vs. woman" display. Eduardo could not have been more gracious and let me hit him several times before he landed his last hit and whipped off his mask and kissed me. What a true showman!

I returned to England to win one more National Championship. I ended my fencing career fencing Lydia Domolki of Hungary in a demonstration match at the Trocadero Hotel in London in the summer of 1963.

The electric foil has brought many changes to fencing with much more dependence on athleticism. Prior to that it took years to acquire the finger work for the exchange of blades, accuracy and control which made foil fencing so fascinating. Times change and I can appreciate the cunning and athleticism I watched in the 2012 Olympics in London.

At the age of 87 I continue to follow British fencing and I am envious of the women who can now compete with Epee and Sabre. Fencing is the ultimate sport. Here's to more British successes!

### Note

A complete interview with Gillian can be watched using the following link:



# Why does my Club need a Welfare Officer?

By Liz Behnke

We want our children and young people to be safe in fencing. One of the ways of doing this is for every club to have a Welfare Officer in post. *Not more work I hear you cry, not more hoops that we need to jump through, we are only volunteers!*

Let's go back to the basic principles of a club – why do they exist? In the main this is because we want to introduce newcomers to our sport, turn them into people who love to fence and occasionally produce champions. This will only happen and they will only stay involved, if they like what they are doing and are happy.

Imagine you are 12 years old and unhappy with something or someone in your club. Who would you go to? Most young people would go to their coach, but what if your issue is with the coach? A Welfare Officer is the natural and next best option. I'm not suggesting that there is a problem with coaches in British Fencing, there isn't, but I am putting forward the case for a separate Welfare Officer in fencing clubs.

At a basic level, a Welfare Officer is responsible for making sure that the safeguarding policies and procedures are in place and being acted upon. They also ensure that all who works with children on a "frequent and regular basis" have an up-to-date criminal record check. They are the person to go to with all welfare concerns. Potentially, a Welfare Officer can have a very strong impact on club development, as there is nothing that goes on in a club that is not impacted by safeguarding. Everyone is responsible for safeguarding, but it is the Welfare Officer that makes it happen. Let's consider the kind of skills that are necessary in order to function well in this role.

Dealing with safeguarding concerns requires someone who is friendly, approachable and confident, in dealing with sensitive matters discretely and tactfully. They also need to be a good listener, able to communicate in different ways. Welfare Officers come from a wide range of backgrounds. They can be teachers, nurses, lorry drivers, accountants, or parents. In fact, they can come from any walk of life. What they need is the confidence and ability to see when things are not right and to do something about it.

British Fencing will help people, who either are or want to become Welfare Officers, through training and support. To become a Welfare Officer we strongly recommend that you attend a 'Sportscoach UK Safeguarding and Protecting Children' workshop as a starting point, and then the 'En Garde Ready' and 'Time to Listen' courses, which are run by British Fencing. Training should be renewed every three years.

In British Fencing we have a network of Regional and Home Nation Welfare officers who are here to help and support you. Also, you can always contact the Equality and Safeguarding Manager. *So do we need Welfare Officers? Yes we do!* British Fencing and all of its clubs have a commitment to children and young people. Having Welfare Officers in post, sends out a very strong message, that we do take safeguarding seriously.

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# Test Drive of New Wireless Fencing Kit

By Alex Agrenich

## HAVERSTOCK EPEE FENCING CLUB TEST DRIVES NEW WIRELESS FENCING KIT



Fencers at London based Haverstock fencing club have been given an interesting opportunity to test drive a new wireless fencing apparatus from Leon Paul. It is a very compact set, comprising of a small box with all the lights and buttons, and two wireless transmitters. It fully replaces the conventional set of a box, two spools and two ground leads. The whole set fits neatly into a small pouch bag smaller than a standard Leon Paul box. It is a 3 weapon box, but we at Haverstock have only been testing the epee side. Having brought the box to the club for a test run, it was very easy to set up: switch all the parts on and off you go! Test weapons, test guards, hit each other on the chest once, and on-guard!

The wireless set works really well. It has some new and very useful features. The box and the transmitters can be charged through a normal micro USB, so no need to keep on buying batteries. The charge lasted a few weeks with the set being used about 6 hours a week. Another great feature is 'auto shutdown', which comes on after about 5 minutes of no activity on the box. The wireless transmitters can be instantly reassigned to a different

wireless box, so in case you have a few of those sets in the club, you can go from box to box without the need to change the transmitter that you are plugged into.

As it was a test drive, our aim was to see if it has any teething issues during regular fencing matches. There were a few. But the great this is, when we go back to Leon Paul and explain the issue, they say: OK, no problem, we know how to fix this. They tweak something in their software and off we go testing again.

This is a great tool for any fencing club as it eliminates running leads on the floor, which can cause some issues if the club doesn't have much space and the pistes are really close to each other. Fortunately, we at Haverstock don't have such problem. Also you would not step on the spool with your back foot, as there is no spool with this set.

Overall it was a great experience testing a new product, which can revolutionise the way we use fencing boxes in the club and at the competitions.

For more information see: 

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# Potential of Dartfish Analysis in Fencing

By Greg Goodrum, Dartfish UK

## CAPTURE, ANALYSE AND SHARE VIDEO



### Using Live Feedback during coaching / training sessions.

Dartfish Express app on the iPad / iPhone can provide coaches with a simple, low cost, but effective instant feedback mechanism when working with athletes. The result is instantaneous, enabling a coach to discuss technique and provide visual feedback seconds after the event.

For those requiring higher quality video or more in depth analysis features, then Dartfish "In the Action" module which forms part of the Windows suite of software is the answer. Dual live capture and multiple camera types are supported, from low cost HD webcams to high speed Basler cameras. In the Action can be used with a simple delayed video feed, enabling an athlete to work alone on specific aspects of technique.

Alternatively the live capture and replay functions capture a pre-defined length of video which can then be played frame by frame, or compared with a previously captured reference clip. A range of drawing and annotation tools are available to further enhance the quality of the feedback.



### Archiving and Retrieving Video Clips – The Dartfish Library

Filing and effectively accessing video is made simple with the Dartfish Library function. It is an often under used feature of the software, mainly because users tend to rely on the traditional Windows folder system for accessing their videos.

The Library features are much more powerful, enabling the user to categorise videos using multiple keywords. This then enables complex filtering to be applied to videos in the library making it much easier to find videos that could be stored in multiple locations such as a local hard drive, memory stick, external hard drive or a network folder. (E.g. The keyword filters would make it simple to find all videos of Russian Male fencers from the 2014 World Championships, using the Keywords – Russian – 2014 World Championships – Male).

### Creation of Teaching and Coaching Resources

Dartfish Media Book feature is a perfect tool for the production of teaching and coaching resources. Fully multimedia analyses can be created and then shared in the Mediabook format which does not require Dartfish software to view it. Whether it be for the creation of resources for grass roots fencing or as a means of providing feedback for elite athletes, Dartfish Media book is ideal.

Dartfish.tv also provides a mechanism for sharing resources through a secure controlled online platform. Collections within a Dartfish.tv channel can be shared publicly or made accessible only to a handful of individual coaches and athletes.





## Coach and Referee Education

Referee and coach education is an area frequently overlooked as having tremendous potential for providing online resources and a remote means of feedback. Referees could provide peer assessment and feedback for trainee referees. Examples of difficult or potentially controversial decisions can be shared for online discussion and comment. Tagging can be used to highlight specific parts of a fencing competition that might be of particular interest from a referee's perspective.

## Provide after Competition Feedback through Tagged Matches

Tagging provides a powerful tool for highlighting specific events that occur during a match or competition. Tagging panels can be created that are very simple consisting of only a few buttons up to multi-level complex panels that tag every event. Tagging can be done either with Windows based software such as ConnectPlus or Dartfish Apps or Android and iOS such as Eaystag and Note. The tagged game can then be published to [Dartfish.tv](#) where specific events of interest can then be easily filtered depending on the interest of the viewer e.g. athlete or coach.

## Athlete Profiles / Development

Dartfish Analyser storyboards can be created and added to for the purpose of profiling an athlete's development in the sport. Alternatively an online profile can also be built up in a TV collection that can be used by coaches and athletes alike. [Dartfish.tv](#) also provides a mechanism for player scouting and talent identification.

## Sports Marketing and Promotion

[Dartfish.tv](#) can provide a perfect window for promoting the sport of fencing, providing access to competition video for followers of the sport that might otherwise not be able to attend an event.



## Player Module

The Player module provides a simple playback mechanism for raw video, enabling slow motion or frame by frame playback with the ability to set cue in and cue out points to focus on specific sections of video. Still shots can be taken at any point.

## In the Action Module

In the Action (ITA) has two main features:

- Delayed Live where the video has a simple time delay that is set by the user.
- Live Capture and playback where a predefined length of video is captured and then automatically played back.

This can be performed with a single live feed in Dartfish Live software or two live feeds in ProSuite and TeamPro. A range of camera types are now available from low cost HD webcams to high speed IP and Basler cameras.

ITA could be used during coaching sessions to provide athletes with an instant review of their performance either using the time delay function or instant capture and playback

This could be used to review a specific technique they are practicing (e.g. a parry or, possibly the review of a bout during practice by both athletes).

## Analyser Module

Add text and drawings to video at key positions and publish this for sharing.

Compare side-by-side the development in technique by an athlete over time or comparison of technique with a potential opponent.

Create exemplar coaching resources using key position analysis and the media book function.

Build a storyboard that records a specific athlete's development over time

Use the Analysis Recorder to create a feedback video. Add drawings to explain and illustrate your analysis while recording your comments and advice. Everything done on the video screen and everything said will be recorded as a new video clip.

## Tagging

Use simple (one or two button) or complex multi layer tagging panels to mark key points in a bout that the coach wants to draw the athlete's attention to after the event. This can be done live (Live tagging) in the software, or combined with the Easytag or Dartfish Note Apps, or tagged after the event.

## Dartfish.tv

Share Dartfish enhanced video (drawings and annotations, key positions, tags etc) through a dedicated Dartfish TV channel.

Create video collections for individual athletes and coaches to access and possibly create public collections with teaching and coaching resources for individual club members and coaches to access and download for their own use.

Referee Education – Provide private feedback to referees on their performance.

Publish fencing bouts with tags and annotations as part of a referee education programme.

# Caitlin Maxwell – in her own words



Caitlin Maxwell. Photo by Matthew Campbell-Hill.

Caitlin Maxwell attends Truro School's 6th form, where she gained a fencing scholarship and is part of the school's new Elite Fencing Programme, which works closely with Truro Fencing Club. Caitlin started fencing in Truro aged 9 and it quickly became clear she had a special talent for the sport. Although still very young, she had exceptional control and technique, but rarely won competitions; until at the age of 14, when she began to excel at cadet level.

Aged 14 she entered her first Senior Open, the Hamlet Sabre, and won the gold medal. Aged 15 she reached the L8 of one of the toughest U20 World Cups in Dormagen, Germany, and reached the L8 of the European Cadet Championships. Aged 16 Caitlin won gold at the Godollo Cadet international, one of the world toughest Cadet events with almost 200 athletes from around the world.

Currently she is ranked number 1 in the European Cadet rankings, is double British Cadet Champion, and British number 1 at U20 and U17 levels. She is also an outstanding academic student, achieving 11 A\*s at GCSE and now studying English, French, History plus Philosophy & Ethics at 'A' Level.

Keen to find out more, I asked Caitlin the following questions:

## **Can you describe your typical week outside of fencing?**

During a normal week I'll go to 6th form at Truro School, from Monday to Friday, 8.45am–3.55pm. Often I get a lot of homework, so I catch up on that in the evenings, when I'm not training; or at weekends, when I don't have competitions. If I've had a competition the weekend before, I'll have extra homework to catch up on. I have a fencing scholarship at Truro School. There is a lot of support for fencers who are training seriously, but I still need to get the work done. If I have time on free weekends I'll meet up with friends, or walk my dogs with mum at the beach. Sometimes I'll see

the rest of my family at a meal on Sunday. I don't have a lot of spare time for socialising, so I really value the time I do have.

## **What is your typical training week like?**

In school time my programme is:

- Monday from 4.00–6.00pm – this session includes footwork and tactical or free sparring
- Tuesday 4.00–5.00pm, with our Strength and Conditioning Coaches Jon Rhodes and Steve Petrie doing various types of training, depending on where we are in the training cycle; and then 7.00–9.30pm doing a core session, then footwork and sparring, and an individual lesson with my coach Jon Salfield.
- Wednesday 7.00–8.30am, Truro School Elite training session; 2.00–2.30pm, another one-to-one lesson with Jon, and 4.00–6.00pm, more footwork, sparring and tactical training
- Thursday 4.00–6.00pm, footwork, sparring and tactical training.
- Friday, a strength and conditioning session 4.00–5.00pm, and sometimes an extra fencing session.

In the school holidays I do the entire above programme, plus morning training 9.00–11.30am, 4 days a week. We also do two week-long training camps in the summer holidays (usually one in Truro and one abroad). Over the summer holidays our Strength and Conditioning programme gets quite brutal, although once a week we do circuits on the beach and then go swimming.

## **Other than fencing and S&C what else do you do to improve your fencing skills?**

I watch a lot of fencing videos of senior World Cup competitions and Championships; because that's the level I'm aspiring to ... My brother (Josh, who is in the GB U20 team) and I are both kind of fencing nerds, but that's always helpful because I can see what the very best in the sport are doing and aim for that. If I can get video of a fight I've had, I'll

watch that as well, because then I can really see what I need to work on in training and lessons. I also use the Headspace app, which I really like because I find that it can be so easy to get caught up in everything that's happening and so this helps me to just relax and calm down for a bit.

## **What are the biggest sacrifices that you've made in order to be such a high performer at school and in fencing?**

I'd say time. I spend a lot of my life training, competing, and travelling to competitions, so I do miss out on social events, and time with friends and family. When I am at home I'm often catching up on homework. But actually for me that isn't too much of a problem, because I love the sport so much and it's so worth all of the effort, when you get to compete in a big competition that you've been working towards; especially when you get a good result. It's more a decision to prioritise something else than a sacrifice.

## **So, who are the biggest influencers in your life?**

My parents for sure! My mum makes huge sacrifices and works extremely hard, to allow me and my brother to go to a great school and compete internationally. She's such a selfless person because she does so much to make us happy, but doesn't really get to spend money and time on herself – I find that really touching. My dad is always so proud and always says to never give up and is a great psychological support. Jon, my coach, is also really influential because he has built this incredible club and training programme, which has become something which plays such a big part in my life. He has coached me from the age of 9 and works really hard for us to be the best we can be. People at the club like James Honeybone and Marta Baeza are also influential, because they love the sport so much and train really hard. They also compete at a level that I ultimately want to, so it's really inspirational to have people who we train with who are where I want to be.

## **OTHER THINGS**

**Favourite food:** Chinese – sweet and sour chicken or crispy chilli beef.

**Favourite pet:** I have two dogs (Milo and Poppy), so I can't say which my favourite is – they both are (even though I'm really not their favourite).

**Favourite film:** 'About Time'.

**What's on your mp3 player right now?** The John Lewis advert song 'Half Way Around The World'.

**Favourite holiday destination:** New York.

Top three tips for young fencers:

1. Do it because you love it.
2. Don't counter-attack too much.
3. Choose the red pill (ie. Face reality!).



# Round Up

## Bedford Open By Andrew Brown

### BEDFORD FENCER AND COACH, QUENTIN BERRIMAN, WINS BEDFORD EPEE OPEN

The 2015 Bedford Epee Open took place on 11th October. Entry numbers remained strong for Men's Epee in line with previous years and pleasingly Women's entries nearly doubled this year. The field included some overseas fencers from Singapore, Italy and Hungary currently training in the UK.



#### Mens' final

In the **men's competition**, Howard West from London Thames led the rankings after the poules and reached the quarter finals comfortably until he met fellow veteran Anton Pollard from Haverstock. This was not the first competitive fight between these two highly experienced fencers and on this occasion Pollard got the better of West and secured a place in the semi-final, winning 15/7. Pollard then faced Richard Hall from Salle Ursa. Pollard's fencing experience and technique managed to contain Hall's speed and gradually secured a safe lead to reach the final 15/12

On the other side of the tableau, Quentin Berriman, from Bedford, second after the poules, secured his place in the semi-final by beating Singaporean fencer Justin Lim 15/11. Berriman's semi-final against Calum Maynard from Egham, was more close with neither of the two fencers managing to impose

a commanding lead during the fight and reaching 14 all in the third period. Berriman launched a final attack against Maynard, skilfully hitting with an anticipated remise of his attack whilst Maynard riposted having used distance to defend the initial attack, securing his place in the final 15/14.

In the final Berriman gradually imposed himself with a range of well executed attacks and counter-attacks in the second period to win the final 15/11.



#### Womens' final

In the **women's competition**, Amelia McCormack from O.P.S. led after the first round of poules and managed to reach the semi-finals after narrowly beating Hungarian fencer Vera Juhasz 15/14. In the semi-final against Nicola Hull from Dream, McCormack managed to pull ahead in the second period to secure a place in the final winning 15/9.

In the final she faced Verity Hillier from Reading, who started the tableau in sixth position and had a series of very strong direct elimination fights, including against Alessia Dalla Pria in the semi-finals. Hillier took control of her semi-final fight to secure her place in the final 15/12.

Hillier continued her strong performance in the final, using her strong blade technique to respond to McCormack's attacks and gradually imposing herself and winning the final 15/13.

The organisers were delighted to see such a strong field of men and women fencers and to see Bedford Fencing Club local fencer and coach Berriman win the men's trophy. Berriman is of course no stranger to winning epee competitions as Quentin was six times National Epee champion, from 1995-99 and also 2001.

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# Round Up *(continued)*

## Cocks Moors Epee Championships 2015 By Richard Burn, Cocks Moors Woods Fencing Club

The Cocks Moors Woods Epee Championships in November 2015, was the fourth year this event has been held. This year we moved to a new venue at Billesley Indoor Tennis Centre, but despite the change of location, we still saw an increase in fencers on the day from 154 in 2014 to 176 this year.

We were also delighted to have been included in the England Youth U13 and U15 selection rankings, which no doubt helped the increase in numbers. The morning had 94 Juniors with 82 Seniors competing in the afternoon.

Our event has always been aimed at inexperienced and beginner competition fencers, so the day is very much geared towards helping fencers understand how it all works. We encourage feedback about our event and the one clear message we get is that parents and their children who also fence, have the ability to compete on the same day. The U15s also get the chance to fence in the seniors open event in the afternoon. We have also received wonderful feedback and thanks from those who attended.

The Howsers from OPS stole the show in the Seniors with wins in the Men's for Chris Howser and Kate Howser in the Women's.

We are very grateful for the help and support from Pete Smith, Centre Manager, and his team at the Billesley Indoor Tennis Centre, where we will be returning to at our next event on Saturday 12th November 2016.

We're already planning for next year and look forward to another great day for all.



Senior Men 123: 1st Chris Howser – OPS, 2nd Marco Russo – Wimbledon, =3rd Tomas Kazik – Sutton Coldfield, =3rd Richard Hall – Salle Ursa.

Additional photos available from:  
[GeoffSmith-photography.co.uk](http://GeoffSmith-photography.co.uk)



Senior Women 123: 1st Kate Howser – OPS, 2nd Yasmine Fosu – Millfield, =3rd Maia Henderson-Roe – CADS, =3rd Amelia McCormack – OPS.



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## Whitchurch Shield 2015 By Beatrice Fannon

This was the second year for the Whitchurch Shield, which took place on Sunday 25th October. Competitors were drawn from several clubs across South Wales and beyond: Whitchurch FC, Celtic Swords (Swansea), Swansea FC, Cardiff FC, Llantwit Major, Malvern Hills Swords, and Cardiff University.

This year's competition was held at Wales' new fencing centre, the Cardiff Academy of Fencing, which opened this year and is home to Russell Swords. This modern fencing venue enabled the competition to be fenced entirely on metallic pistes with overhead FIE scoring equipment. Like last year, dedicated (non-fencing) referees – always much appreciated by the competitors – were used throughout the pools and DE rounds.

As well as being held at a new venue, there were several new elements introduced to the competition this year, including an armoury run by Nigel Lewis and Simon Corcoran. Alongside the 'highest-placed beginner' prize, this year a prize was introduced for the 'highest-placed Veteran' in each competition. Michael Clemitson, Whitchurch Club Secretary, stated: "Wales has a vibrant community of Veteran fencers. We are hope that by introducing a 'highest-placed vet' award, we will encourage them to enter more local Welsh competitions."

A mixed 'plate' competition, run as a pool unique, was a new feature this year in order to give fencers as much fencing as possible. Lyndon Martin explained the rationale for this step: "The entry for local competitions can be a bit uncertain and competitors can be put off if there is not a decent turn out. Introducing a mixed plate competition following the main competition means that we can ensure that competitors get a good day's fencing, without interfering with the competition format. This guarantee should encourage more people to enter."

This year also saw the support of two major companies. Leon Paul is a known sponsor of national competitions, and the company demonstrated its support for local competitions by donating stylish black laptop bags as first prizes as well as stickers and sweets. Competitors had the opportunity to pre-order Leon Paul equipment, and every competitor was given a Leon Paul goody bag to take away with them. Cardiff's Colchester Avenue Sainsbury's store also sponsored the competition by donating gift vouchers, which were awarded for second place.

Life President of Welsh Fencing, David Mort, and his wife Yvonne were invited to present the prizes to the winners. David became Life president following the death of previous president, John Emrys Lloyd, in 1987. David and Yvonne had an important part to play in the history of fencing in Wales as they founded the Welsh Open. He commented: "Yvonne and I started the Welsh Open in (I think) 1971, because we were tired of going to Aston, Bristol, London, etc. The first Welsh Open was held in a local school with an entry of around 15 fencers. We had to lay the tapes, and clean the floors afterwards, as well as organise the whole competition – and fence!" From such humble beginnings, the Welsh Open grew to its present size (this year over 300 competitors) and is an example of the potential of local competitions.

### Men's Epee

After the pools rounds, William Meredith-Davies (Cardiff) was seeded first, closely followed by Gareth Law (Celtic Swords), both of whom were unbeaten in the pools. Rupert Nute (Whitchurch) was seeded third, having suffered only one defeat.

The elimination round (last 8), saw the first, second and third seeds knocked out to James Daly (Cardiff Uni), Jack Cafaro (Llantwit Major) and William White (Cardiff Uni) respectively. Only the fourth seed, Krystof Gibbon (Cardiff Uni) maintained his seeding into the semi-finals, where he saw off his Cardiff Uni clubmate James Daly (15-7). After having a shaky start in the pools, Jack Cafaro stormed into the final beating William White 15-5.

In a tightly fought final, Jack gained an early lead on Krystof. While Krystof fought back valiantly, Jack maintained his lead and the fight, which went to time, finished 14-9.

James Daly and William White, who had both achieved equal third place, fought for the highest placed beginner. It was a close match, but William just pipped James in a 14-15 victory. Gareth Law (Celtic Swords) was awarded 'highest-placed veteran'.



Men' Epee

### Women's Epee

After a close pools round, Abigail Watkins (Malvern Hills Swords) emerged as the first seed – just beating Catherine Bowd (Celtic Swords), the second seed, in their match by one hit. Bett Pugh (Cardiff Uni) secured her place as the third seed, with Julie Macnamara (Whitchurch) seeded fourth.

Both Abigail and Catherine maintained their seeding in the direct elimination rounds, seeing off Julie and Bett respectively in the semi-finals.

The final was closely fought, but Abigail finished the tournament unbeaten, winning by two hits (15-13).

For the highest-placed beginner award, the same situation in the women's competition occurred as in the men's: equal third place was achieved by two beginners. Bett and Julie, therefore, fenced to decide who was the 'highest-placed beginner', with Bett finally getting the better of Julie. Catherine Bowd (Celtic Swords) was awarded 'highest-placed veteran'.



Women's Epee

### Plate competition

Nine competitors took part in the plate competition, which was run as a mixed pool unique. Gareth Law (Celtic Swords) gained the victory and was unbeaten throughout. Rupert Nute (Whitchurch) came second, having been beaten only by Gareth. Third place was achieved by Abigail Watkins (Malvern Hills Swords).

The competition was enjoyed by all who took part. Catherine Bowd of Celtic Swords thanked organisers, saying: "The competition was really well organised and run, and full of lovely touches like the gift bags."

*Whitchurch Fencing Club would like to thank the numerous people that gave their time to ensure that the competition was a success: Celyn Lewis, Steve Poyser, and Peter Russell (referees); Nigel Lewis and Simon Corcoran (armourers). Particular thanks are due to Peter Russell for his role in ensuring the competition was a success and to Leon Paul and Sainsbury's for their support and generosity.*

# Round Up (continued)

## A Chance Encounter with a Blind UK Fencer By Neil Maggs

*Approaching his first fencing tournament with a hint of inverse snobbery, Neil Maggs was surprised to meet the UK's only known blind fencer – “an elf blessed with special powers”.*

Two days of fighting with blades in inner city Bristol would usually get the police sirens going, but last weekend there was a fencing competition at the City Academy. Every little boy dreams of holding a sword, stick or light sabre at some point, imagining battling with Darth Vader or Orks through the depths of Mordor. But when I popped to the Bristol Open, I didn't expect to come into contact with someone who was closer to the story of Lord of the Rings than I could ever have imagined, blind fencer and granddaughter of J.R.R. himself, Ruth Tolkien.

This was a prestigious event in the fencing calendar, and one which attracts competitors from all over the country and Europe. In its 40th year, with hundreds of high-level competitors on display, this is a real coup for the city and a testimony to the first-class sport facilities at the former St George school where it was held for a 10th year in a row. Fencing is not on the PE national curriculum for state education, but is played in the majority of public schools and has a reputation of being rather elitist – for the white, male, rich and able bodied. An Olympic sport, I expected to meet an array of former Etonians and Harrovians on show all vying for a place in Rio 2016. The next chap firmly brushed me aside with entitlement as I had evidently disturbed his concentration, and then I briefly spoke to another competitor who sounded like he was Boris Johnson's child. Attempting to push my inverted snobbery to one side, I ventured to the other half of the sports hall, which seemed slightly different. There seemed a greater variety of ages, genders, shapes and sizes. I stumbled across a couple of ladies, one had a strong East London accent and the



The Bristol Open took place on the weekend of the 19th of September

other was a Geordie, who told me that they loved the sport.

The Londoner, Ayesha, was the only black person at the event, and she explained how she got involved in fencing. “I went to sessions in our summer holiday camps at local leisure centre, the local clubs were delivering taster sessions. Without that I doubt I would have known about or got involved in it.” And why fencing? “Because it's different than usual sports like tennis and hockey or whatever, it's a real physical and mental challenge. I prefer individual sports too.”

Astrid, who was my chaperone for the event, told me that fencing is really trying to make great strides to reach out to a wider audience, of all ages, genders, and social backgrounds. “It is difficult when kids don't do it in state schools, but at Bristol Fencing Club and White Eagle in Bristol we really try to do things in extracurricular time, after school clubs in other neighbourhoods and link with youth projects, to widen access. We try to limit the cost by supplying as much kit as possible. We are even trying to do more with community centres for older people too.”

Looking around more intently there did seem to be a wide range of age groups. I spotted a lady that looked well over 60, then another, and another greying chap in the twilight of his years. Philip told me that fencing “can be played until your 70 really, as it's a very stretching sport, low impact, and you don't really pick up many injuries from it. There is in fact a thriving worldwide veteran's scene”.

I admitted to Astrid that whilst I was aware of some great fencing stuff happening in local community centres, generally I was sceptical

about the social connotations of the sport on arrival, but had to concede it was more inclusive than I anticipated. She then said something that blew my mind – “Oh I forgot to say, see the lady fencing over there in the pink socks? just watched her, she is really good ... Well, she's blind.”

Yes, Ruth was registered blind. I waited eagerly to talk to her. She bounded over to me after finishing her fights and securing a place into the knock-out phases of the competition. With hundreds of questions buzzing around my head and still slightly bemused, I settled on: “How?” She explained: “I tend to recognise a hazy body shape, I can't actually see the blade and I can't see my own blade. I can hear people on the piste – I zone out so I can't hear anyone shouting just the sounds of movement from the opponent. I also use a lot of contact with the blade so you sense and feel what your opponent is doing. So if they pressure, I can then react to that. My coach gets me doing lots of muscle memory and repetition stuff, so it becomes instinctive.”

I was utterly gobsmacked, I had seen Wing Chun kung fu demonstrations where the practitioner is blind folded against opponents and gets the better of them, science indicating that felt sense is indeed faster than the eye. But somebody coming at you with a sword?! I presumed that this must have been something that Ruth had mastered from a young age, or she had grown up in a fencing family. No. Remarkably, she told me that she only started fencing at 28, in her hometown of Newquay in Cornwall. This was only four years ago and she has now reached the level of regional and national competition.



**Neil Maggs with Ruth Tolkien**

I wondered why she competed in sighted events not disability fencing. She said she would if there were any. Ruth was, in fact, the only blind fencer in the UK. She was keen to spread the message that it is safe and ok with the right training for blind and partially sighted people to fence. It wasn't until towards the end of the conversation that another lady fencer poked her head in and said something about her great grandfather being famous. Not knowing her surname, they both said "Tolkein". I laughed thinking they were joking. They weren't.

"Yeah that's right, I am the great granddaughter of J.R.R. Tolkien, author of Lord of the Rings." Still not sure if this was a wind up, she laughed and said that she also rides horses and does dance at a high level – and her friends say she is like an elf blessed with special powers. Amazing.

Ruth grew up hearing tales from her family of Bilbo and Frodo Baggins fighting dragons and Orks with swords. In one way she now lives that reality, despite the obstacles in her life. One of the most inspiring sports people I have ever come across, if Ruth can, then anyone can. There may well still be some barriers to the sport, but you don't need to go to Eton or even be able to see for that matter, to take up fencing.

For more information on how you can get involved with fencing locally visit [www.swfencing.co.uk/clubs](http://www.swfencing.co.uk/clubs).

*Sport development consultant Neil Maggs presents Midweek Sportsbar on BCfm and is director of StreetzElite, promoting grassroots and community sport.*

## The best kept (fencing) secret in Scotland

At the time of going to press one of the biggest secrets in Scottish Fencing will be out. Bert Bracewell, the former Scottish National Fencing Coach (who still coaches), will have celebrated his 80th birthday on 2nd January 2016. In honour of this occasion, a special fencing event was organised by his family to celebrate his considerable achievements and remarkable contributions to fencing. This is how his daughter, Julia, made the announcement on Facebook:



**Bert Bracewell**

'This handsome chap turns 80 on 2nd January 2016. To celebrate this achievement and his contribution to Scottish Fencing we are hosting a SURPRISE morning of fencing. There will be a one hit épée event, poules unique at foil and sabre. We will also organise team matches, so if you want to form a team, or have a particular team you want to fence, please let us know.

'Please please keep this quiet. We do not want dad to hear about this at all. The emphasis is on fun. We would love to see as many people who feel their life was enhanced by dad. You do not have to fence at all or even all your fights. We would just love to see you. Retiring when victorious is fine. But there will be prizes.'

From all your many friends in British Fencing (a belated), *Happy Birthday Bert!*

## Fencing comes to marine base in Somerset



### 40 Commando Royal Marines

40 Commando Royal Marines are based in Taunton, Somerset. During a break from their heavy operational commitments in the summer, they held a Families Day on their camp with all wives and families invited to a fun day of activities. They invited Andrew Overhill from Premier Sports Training Academy to lay on some fun sports for the youngsters. His team had just completed a Go Fence Course, so the Marines' children were given instruction and then let loose on their fathers! It received a welcome approbation from Lawrence Burr, Wellington Swords Fencing Club, who was there helping out with a group called 4-40 Volunteers who support the wives and families of the Marines. He said "It was great to see the kids gaining an interest in fencing at such an event. Over 20 children had a go and we have had some further interest for our own club in Wellington".

Go Fence gets everywhere!

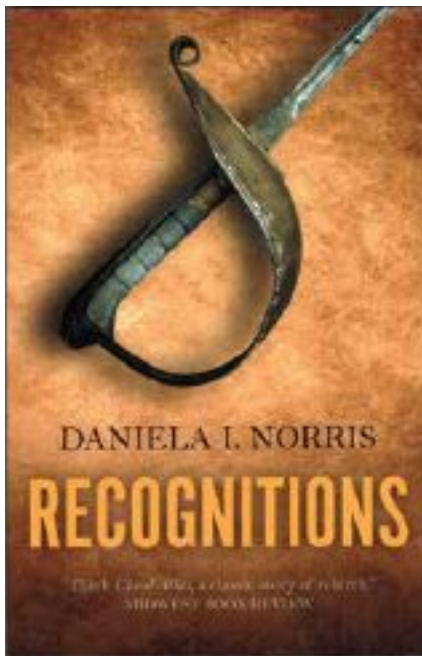
**Lawrence Burr**



# Book Reviews

## RECOGNITIONS

By Daniela I. Norris



You know when an author has become hooked on her subject when you read a book's dedication. In this case, Daniela Norris has inscribed the first book of her trilogy "*For all fencers – to their swords, and to their spirits*". What fencing book reviewer could resist such an opening!

Daniela Norris is an interesting mix. A former Israeli diplomat and political writer who has faced tragedy in her life by exploring the more spiritual and inspirational side of human nature. As she herself says, "Spirituality keeps us inspired, politics keep us grounded." To this end, she has now turned away from writing fictional short stories about the effects of the paranormal in everyday life (I didn't really get into those) and has now started out on a journey that has echoes of Kate Mosse's "Labyrinth" – the past intertwining with present events to bring about resolution and hope for a future in an uncertain world.

So, here we have Amelia, a modern day New Yorker trying to balance the aftershock of divorce, the pressures of work and the daily battles with her two teenagers who are on the brink of breaking away from her parental restraints. When this all becomes too much

for her, she is persuaded to try hypnotherapy. Whilst under her trances and then, more frequently into her dreams, come two characters – an intelligent young 17th century girl from a village on the Franco Swiss border and an African shaman trying to protect his village from the onslaught of colonial slavers. These unlikely characters unlock something deep inside her own psyche and they begin to help her to draw parallels with her own life and to make sense of the society around her.

OK, so that might sound a bit too much like a chic lit novel for some, but where is the fencing connection and why the book cover photo of an old steam sabre? Well, this is where it becomes interesting for the readers of *The Sword*. Into Amelia's life stumbles a school colleague from the San Francisco High School. The coincidences now start to pile up. Their first hesitant date starts at his place of work and yes – you have guessed it – at a Fencing School in Manhattan where Noah Welder is one of the coaches. "... a tall, wide-shouldered man, his black coaching attire adding some confidence to his posture". Actually, there really is a Manhattan Fencing Centre in New York which certainly rivals our own Leon Paul Centre (air conditioning, 22 electric strips, Wi-Fi, comfortable viewing area, targets, locker rooms and showers together with a yearly membership of \$1050.00 – Jon Willis please note!). It is also the home of the US Olympic Silver medal sabre team. So, it is inevitable that Amelia's date is one of the sabre coaches. Further to that, it now turns out that he has Asperger's Syndrome and coaches behind a mask to avoid social interaction. An interesting observation.

The stage is then set for further connections – Amelia's 13 year old daughter, Jen, has a crush on a young athlete who turns out to be a fencer and yes – he also fences sabre at the Manhattan Fencing Centre and so she takes up fencing as well. Beside all this, the dream stories continue and draw to their inevitable conclusions. The shaman, whose powers are now recognised as Aspergian, only briefly protects his village from Portuguese slavers and the young French girl finds an unfulfilled love with a school master who goes on to become a French maitre d'armes. As it all unravels in the final chapters, we see the connections becoming a recognition in Amelia's head that leaves her with a new future and the realisation of a life that was almost preordained. How that will transpire

to a further two books for the trilogy, I cannot really see. Nevertheless, I will look forward to finding out when they are published.

So, a book for fencers? Definitely, yes. There are some interesting passages here describing the daughter's first sabre competition seen from the parent's point of view and how a good Olympic sport can change around a young girl's attitude at school (shades of the London 2012 Olympic Legacy?) together with the normal descriptive detail of fencing being like a game of chess. All in all, this was a very readable book about intertwined lives and how fencing, even sabre, can be a force for good! Put it in your bag and take it to your next sabre competition. It is entertaining filler in between bouts.

Lawrence Burr

## Daniela Norris – Biography

Daniela I. Norris is a former Israeli diplomat, turned political writer and – with age and wisdom – inspirational writer and speaker.

Her stories, articles and essays have been published in numerous newspapers and magazines, and first collection of short stories, titled 'The Year Spring Turned into Winter' was out in December 2008. *Crossing Qalandiya – Exchanges Across the Israeli Palestinian Divide*, co-authored with Palestinian writer Shireen Anabtawi, was published in the UK in May 2010 by Reportage Press. *On Dragonfly Wings: a skeptic's journey to mediumship* was out in April 2014 (Axis Mundi Books) followed by *Collecting Feathers: tales from The Other Side* (Soul Rocks Books, November 2014)

Daniela is a Member of SWWJ (Society of Women Writers and Journalists, UK), GWG (Geneva Writers' Group, Switzerland), The Society of Authors (UK) and Goodwill Ambassador for [Children of Peace](#).

## INNOVATIONS AND INVENTIONS IN FENCING

By George and Shalva Kokochashvili



### Richard Cohen writes:

*“George and Shalva Kokochashvili have produced a treasure trove of a book about fencing. It is a plum pudding of a book, full of unexpected delights and odd strands of knowledge – I know of no other book like it. Anyone interested in the literature of fencing, or indeed in cultural history, will find items in the book to enlighten them, entertain them, or simply make them shake their heads that one sport could stretch into so many different areas.”*

George and Shalva Kokochashvili, twin brothers from Georgia, are civil engineers and inventors with a passion for fencing. Together they have written a unique book (225 pages on pdf format). This includes a rich array of well illustrated material; including a short history of fencing, fencing accessories, fencing as therapy, fencing injuries, wheelchair fencing, fencing for the blind, with bayonet, singlestick, fencing grips (the scope and description of which is remarkable), training devices, interesting and funny stuff, finger jousting, fencing with toy balloons, computer games, smart ideas, funny people and various fencing quotes – and much, much more.

The scope of material is remarkable and once you get into it, hard to put down. It does not appear to be published in the conventional sense, but access to the pdf version of the book can be achieved by contacting the brothers themselves at:

**George Kokochashvili**  
([gkokochashvili@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gkokochashvili@yahoo.co.uk))

**Shalva Kokochashvili**  
([skokochashvili@mdf.org.ge](mailto:skokochashvili@mdf.org.ge))

Editor

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(\*Excludes Favero and starter kit orders)



# Fencing Travel Story Competition

## FENCING TRAVEL STORY COMPETITION

It was a privilege and a pleasure to read the entries for the Fencing Travel Story competition: they are all anthology-worthy. The stories were well written, amusing, interesting, inspiring. The task of choosing winners was extremely difficult.

But difficult or not, it had to be done, and here is the list of the winning stories and why they were chosen:

### Bronze – *The Field* and *Survival of the Fittest*

Although one of these stories is set in the past and the other in the future, they both have an interesting twist and an unusual interpretation of 'fencing travel'.

Many of us physically travel to and from competitions, but the authors of these stories, Lawrence Burr (*The Field*) and Sean May (*Survival of the Fittest*) travelled afar in their memories and their imagination, bringing with them their knowledge of fencing.

"It was dawn. The autumnal mist was rising over the green Field, the brook at one end babbling away to meet the Rhone far down in the valley. At the other, the track ended by a narrow stile, rotting through the neglect of time. The group of young students, their voices muted, hurried excitedly along the tree line. 'Hurry now. We only have half an hour before the locals awake and spot us. We need to get this over as soon as possible.' Jean Luc laughed. 'It will not take that long. The Englishman knows that he is not a sabreur. He will need the medic's stitches within minutes.'

A Frenchman and an Englishman fight over a woman. You'll have to read the rest of this amusing tale to know who needed the medic's stitches!

"The story is inspired by a trip to France in 1968 when I fenced a similar 'duel' outside

Lyons with a young Frenchman (and won!)," writes the author of *The Field*, Lawrence Burr. Indeed, duels over love and honour are not rare in French history. What is interesting behind this tale is the human story – a well-told one.

*Survival of the Fittest* takes us to the world of SciFi – where Leon Paul fencing kit serves an important purpose, and a long journey to the Leon Paul shop twenty years from now transpires to be life-saving for the protagonist and his sons. I could see the author – Sean May – had fun with this story. But who knows, we all might want to start stocking up on 800 Newton gear, just in case.

'Thirty years ago I made this whole trip,' I said, 'in about two hours'.

We were heading along a slight decline so I let the bike coast as we descended.

'Same road, M1 all the way from Nottingham to Hendon. Of course back then bikes weren't allowed on the motorways'.

Sam, my youngest, smiled indulgently back at me as he kept pace, barely breaking a sweat. I could tell that he was itching to join his brother ahead of us, but it was his turn for dad-duty.

'I couldn't have done this the last time though,' I continued, 'hadn't cycled anywhere since I was a boy – would've killed me.' Despite the sweat dripping down my back and pooling under the plastron, I was far fitter now than I had been when I was fifty."

### Silver – which was definitely touching Gold: *Hurrying Home* by Sarah Dolan.

A beautifully written story of a mother and son travelling back home from a fencing competition, looking forward to hosting some exchange students from Paris the next day. Except, the exchange students cancel last minute, with a good reason, too: the recent Paris-shootings.

The political backdrop of the story is expertly woven into the emotional unwinding after a fencing competition, and past, present and future are all intertwined in this powerful drive back home.

"In front we are left with a single set of red brake lights to guide us. Somebody told us at a competition that it's better to be on the side of the box with the red light. The referee is more likely to react to the red light. I'm reacting to red lights now ...

... 'None of them are coming. They're not leaving Paris. Their headmaster has cancelled the trip.'

I've travelled this road many times. It is the highest motorway in Britain. There is a sign that tells you. I saw a programme about it too. It is a feat of engineering which took seven years to build. When the Queen opened it she wore a hat that wouldn't blow off in a gale. On the day it was sunny and she is smiling in all the photographs.

The weather can change here in an instant. I make a silent wish but nothing happens. I know we must be climbing but only because of the rising pressure in my ears."

### Gold – *If Your Grandfather Starts on Any Fencing Stories ...*

This was an extremely well-written, classic tale in the best tradition of travel stories. Momentary madness that leads to a voyage across the Iron Curtain, friendships and unexpected triumphs (spoiler alert! even though they were not in fencing bouts). Written with humour and humility, *If your grandfather starts on any fencing stories, hit that alarm and we'll sedate him. Otherwise he'll never stop* – despite the somewhat longwinded title – delivers what it promises: "Whoever suggested driving an open-top car around East Europe visiting fencing clubs should have been tortured slowly to death.

Actually, it was me – I admit it. I made the proposal after the May Ball, and you know what Aristotle said about sentencing drunks: the punishment should be doubled."

The author, Will Miller, writes – "This is a fictional story, but makes reference to real historical people. It is something of a tribute story to the recently deceased Csaba Fenyvesi (14 April 1943 – 3 November 2015) who was a remarkable Hungarian talent. However, I do not claim to paint an accurate picture of those times when he was a champion; it is a fictional account. In fact, it is a comic story."

Indeed it is – and one well worth reading.

Many thanks to Ed Rogers and Karim Bashir from British Fencing for making this short story competition possible. It proved that fencers are wonderfully creative people, of many talents!

Daniela Norris, Geneva, December 2015  
[www.danielanorris.com](http://www.danielanorris.com)



## WINNING ENTRY

by Will Miller

*"If your grandfather starts on any fencing stories, hit that alarm and we'll sedate him. Otherwise he'll never stop."*

Whoever suggested driving an open-top car around East Europe visiting fencing clubs should have been tortured slowly to death.

Actually, it was me – I admit it. I made the proposal after the May Ball, and you know what Aristotle said about sentencing drunks: the punishment should be doubled. To my thinking, the wrongdoer was really Barney, the American, who heard me and agreed on the spot. Otherwise it would have been one of the thousand throwaway lines made at four in the morning and never remembered. Worse still, my girlfriend dropped me after discovering this arrangement, claiming I had ruined her summer vacation. Yet, I couldn't back out: Barney had told everyone.

When it proved difficult getting a visa to cross the Iron Curtain and I secretly rejoiced that the planned trip would come to nothing. But Barney explained to the Polish, the Czechoslovakian and then the Hungarian embassy staff that we wanted to fight their best fencers, and an invisible red carpet rolled out. It was as though their fencers needed human sacrifices or, more likely, some mega-propaganda event would unfold proving the decadence of the West.

After a week of driving from one Czechoslovakian club to the next, I found the sound of rain on the Spitfire soft top so psychically draining I was beginning to imagine myself a nomadic tribesman sheltering under a meagre grass roof in a hurricane, or perhaps a vagrant sitting under a sheet of disintegrating newspaper. All the while I hoped some miracle would transport me to a warm fire and a glass of my father's port.

Barney didn't mind the rain or being endlessly thrashed by East European champions – not even after it was explained they weren't champions at all, just the locals. He joked like a stand-up comedian as he negotiated major traffic intersections on the wrong side, waving like a madman and hooting at foreign motorcars. Which was why he was driving my car: the Americans also drive on the wrong side of the road. Pointing later at a vista of bovine agriculture, he quipped: "Engineers have discovered the problem with cows. Too many moo-ving parts." The finest University in

the world had equipped Barney only to make Christmas-bonbon jokes.

The car radio provided no relief, playing speeches by Communist leaders or the most ridiculous marching songs. I was hankering to hear real news, such as whether the new Beatles' or the Rolling Stones' song had climbed higher in the charts.

Next, we spent a week in a Krakow fencing camp as gruelling as any gulag described by Solzhenitsyn. It is a beautiful city, I'm told, but we saw little of it. The most intense physical pain was exacted by deep-footwork sessions carrying Barney on my back. Each of my thighs felt as though it were giving birth. Plus, I've never had anyone shout at me so intensely for so long – not in a foreign language anyway. A bear of a man the coach was too, so one did not answer back. Barney loved every moment. He carried the coach in the same exercise and Barney's laughter could only be described as "sardonic": you know, the grim smile children had as they were being burned alive in ancient Carthage?

Afterwards, we headed for a fencing salle in Budapest called Honvéd, or some such name, which had been recommended at the fencing camp. After locating Spartan digs near the Jewish quarter we then tried to locate the salle. This was no easy task – aside from the fact I could still barely walk after Krakow.

"The Commies eat OK," Barney said, plunging a crust of stale bread into the oleaginous sauce of his goose-leg goulash. "Not even any bread queues. You're not eating? Can I have yours?" The restaurant was empty except for us. The plan had been to find someone who spoke English because, no matter how many times we said "Honvéd", no-one understood. Foolishly we calculated that a waiter might be our best chance.

Eventually, Barney tried to strike up a conversation with a palace guard up on the Buda hill – one of those helmeted soldiers armed with a sabre who, I assume, wouldn't speak even while slicing off my head. When the guard didn't respond, Barney then began pretending to fence him, pointing to his sabre.

To any outside observer, including myself, it appeared that Barney was offering to fight the guard. I know I've run down Barney somewhat and did indeed pray nightly for a swift curtailment of our trip, Barney's death included, yet I had rather become attached to him. Much like a prosthetic limb I didn't want to be parted from. So I intervened at this point, reciting every word for fencing

in the languages of the world that I could remember – all three of them – and the guard's scowl dropped. He shouted and several uniformed comrades loitering on the steps of the building behind promptly surrounded us. One of the officers spoke in halting English, and I suspected he was henceforth to be our interrogator: "Would you please follow me?"

Escorted into an ancient, ornate room, I realised it was the officers' mess after a crowd of military types mobbed us, toasting us in Hungarian. How one fences after drinking a bottle of tokay, I had no idea, but I believed I was about to find out.

Instead, later that night, Barney and I were dropped back at our hotel from a vast black limousine. A Captain Fenyvesi promised to pick us up the following evening at six, or a least that was as much as I could gather from his pointing at his watch: a watch I suspected had difficulty keeping time. Barney kept banging on about moving on to a nightclub in Soho, until I convinced him we were still in Budapest.

True to our Captain's word, or watch, at six the black limousine arrived and we transferred our fencing kit from various stashes in the tiny Spitfire into its bulky boot.

Well, Honvéd was a spectacle. Steel floors had been erected under the painted dome of a synagogue. The building was owned by the Army and, unused after the creation of a new synagogue following World War Two, it had been converted into a fencing sale – the world's most beautiful fencing salle.

After our military friends arrived, uniforms were exchanged for the universally recognised kit of a fencer. Insignia on epaulettes no longer determined rank, but instead hits scored while on the piste. Barney was hoping to be ranked a general, but quickly discovered he was unable to beat any of them. We were in the presence of the Hungarian épée team and they had won gold just a few years back in the Mexico City Olympics. Their wives and girlfriends appeared and wiped the floor with us too – if that isn't too politically incorrect a phrase to use.

Barney kept shouting, "My pal Pál," accompanied with enthusiastic slaps on the champion's back. His bonhomie came into its own that night, metamorphosing into an infectious esprit de corps and a pure delight for us all. And my word, what fencing: their weapons sliced through our pitiable defences as though hot knives through butter. At times I felt to be slashing my blade underwater as

one open-eyed attack after another avoided my parries and hit its mark. *Prises de fer*, ceding parries, *rassemblements*, derobements, and counter-counter-counter-time: they threw the fencing manual at us.

Never had I more thoroughly enjoyed being so utterly defeated, and I was grateful to the coaches in Krakow that our defeats were not worse. Afterwards, it was back to the officers' mess for more tokay, where some of the best hits were explained in detail to the amusement of all.

Until that moment, what neither Barney nor I realised was that at Honvéd we had lost a wager. Whether the wager had been declared before our marvellous night of fencing or concocted immediately after in the mess, I could not readily say but, after such hospitality and such a trouncing on the piste, we felt honour-bound to submit to any terms without hesitation.

The terms were this: we were to allow our new fencing friends to drive the Spitfire to the Austrian border when we departed the

following day. Barney and I were to travel in the black limousine. In between the shouted toasts, I managed to convey that our understanding of the wager was that the losers drove the limousine. This was agreed to with a roar of hilarity. I still have a rear-window photo of those six officers crammed into my old Spitfire. What unfortunately I don't have is any record of the expression on Barney's face as he navigated that tank-like vehicle through the mountains. And of course, you must realise, it was a race.

## BIRMINGHAM INTERNATIONAL FENCING TOURNAMENT Easter 2016

**Venue:** Munrow Sports Centre, The University of Birmingham

**Access:** Edgbaston Park Road off A38 South, Birmingham B15 2TT

Events	Latest report time	Events	Latest report time
<b>Sat. 26 March</b>		<b>Sun. 27 March</b> ( <i>British Summer Time begins</i> )	
Men's Foil	09.00	Men's Epee	09.00
Women's Foil	11.00	Women's Epee	11.30
Men's Sabre	13.30	Women's Sabre	13.30

**Entry Fee:** £26 per weapon via on-line process; free entry to non-UK fencers visiting specifically for this event (not free to UK-based students).

**Pay cheques to:** "BIFTOC"

**Post entries to:** Mike Whitehouse, 208 Wheelers Lane, Birmingham B13 0SR; tel./fax +44 0121 443 3136

**Closing date:** 20 March 2016. Any late entries, if agreed, charged at £36 per weapon.

**Notes:** BFA licences will be checked; NGB equivalent must be shown at check-in. Fencers must be aged 13 or over before 01.01.2016.

Prizes for L8 fencers at each weapon and best Veteran.

Leon Paul Equipment Co trade stand & sponsorship.

On-line entry & payment process, hotel forms, directions on [www.birminghaminternationalfencing.org.uk](http://www.birminghaminternationalfencing.org.uk).

Queries to email: [contact@birminghaminternationalfencing.org.uk](mailto:contact@birminghaminternationalfencing.org.uk)

### ENTRY FORM BIRMINGHAM INTERNATIONAL: 26–27/03/16

**Event:** .....

**Entry fee:** .....

**Name:** .....

**Address:** .....

**Post code:** ..... **email:** .....

**Tel:** .....

**Country/Club:** .....

**Vet:** (over 40 on 01.01.16 & NVA) ..... and declared at check-in

**BFA or NGB licence No:** .....

I accept that the organisers cannot be held responsible for any accident, loss or damage sustained at the Tournament.

**Signed:** .....  
(Parent/guardian if under 18)

**Date:** .....

# Archive Corner

## Corble Cup

Report and photographs by Graham Morrison

This season's Corble Cup, in Guildford's Spectrum centre, was the strongest anyone could remember with a NIF count of 132 compared to last year's 70 odd. It may have been the strongest ever. At least one fencer has taken the world championship after winning the Corble, but I cannot recall it the other way round before. This year Olympic and world champion Stanislaw Pozdniakov won Britain's top sabre title.

Regrettably, France could only send their 'B' team, so we missed a Pozdniakov/Touya clash – the two most talented sabre fencers in the world today. But Italy sent Tarantino, Terenzi and Caserta, while for Poland appeared Jaskot and Sznajder, with Garcia turning out for Spain. Interestingly, the USA sent Clinton, but the girls could rest easy because it turned out to be Elliot not Bill.

In this company the home contingent was destined to struggle. Nevertheless six managed the 154: Ian Williams 38th, Dominic Flood 47th, Mike Johnson 59th, Robin Knight 60th, Nick Fletcher 62nd and Chris Jamieson 64th. For Jamieson and Johnson the Corble was their first senior A-grade. Tom Benney also fenced well, way out of his age range. For the future, Benney is clearly the one to watch. But the best individual British performance was undoubtedly Robin Knight who got 11-4 up against Caserta before going out 15-11. Someone of Caserta's standing (he ended 1997 No. 6 in FIE rankings) might well relax a bit in a fight, but Knight clearly gave him a fright.

For James Williams this was only his second A-grade this season following an injury. He ended a miserable 79th out of the field of 100, losing to Antonio Garcia in the DE 15-9. An outstanding disappointment from Britain's top Olympic fencer. Following this he announced his retirement from competition because of family and work commitments and a lack of cash for training.

Ian Williams had a better seeding round, only dropping one fight. This was good enough for 32nd seed. He was drawn against Frederic Pailhasse of France. Williams is respected in France where he trains and the French went into a huddle before the fight. It was a fight

many believe Ian should have won, but he lost 15-10 and ended the day 38th. Pailhasse did not progress much further; he next met Tarantino and lost also 15-10 to finish 31st.

The final tableau saw a satisfying six-nation mix. Tarantino (Italy) came out as top seed over Pozdniakov (Russia). Then came Fernando Medina (Spain), Rafal Sznajder (Poland), Domonkos Ferjancsik (Hungary), Gianpiero Pastore (Italy), Alexander Weber (Germany) and Norbert Jaskot (Poland).

In the quarter-finals Jaskot overcame Tarantino 15-12, while Sznajder dispatched Ferjancsik with an easy 15-8. The next quarter-final saw something of an upset as Pastore, considered an outsider in world terms, stopped Medina 15-13. Finally Pozdniakov sailed through 15-7 against Weber – hardly a surprise. In the semi-finals world form held true as Sznajder defeated Jaskot 15-12 and Pozdniakov prevailed over Pastore by an unexpectedly narrow 15-12. This was not a fight which showed Pozdniakov's brilliance – perhaps against a much weaker opponent the Russian did not feel the need to rise to the occasion. That the Italian got into double figures at all is a surprise.

If it was not to be Tarantino to meet the world champion for the gold medal fight then Sznajder was just as good. Sznajder ended 1997 in 5th place internationally, but in the world pecking order eight years away from Pozdniakov who, with France's Damien Touya, is nearly 100 points ahead. The Pole really had no answer to Pozdniakov, who quickly established an 8-4 lead, dominated to 12-6 and finished the job 15-8.



So we look forward to the 1999 Corble. Perhaps next year Ian Williams can push on to a single-figure placing – he won't find any better training than he now receives. And maybe Tom Benney – a fencer patently not relying on getting lucky – will have developed more of his potential. And perhaps the French 'A' team will come. That would make next year's event a virtual world championship.

Above: Stanislaw Pozdniakov, winner of the 1998 Corble Cup. Below: Pozdniakov (left) and Sznajder in action in the final.



We are grateful to Graham Morrison for submitting this extract from the April 1998 issue of *The Sword*. He writes: "I'm not sure there's been a better/stronger men's sabre event in Britain since (excluding the Olympics)." Thanks Graham.

Any other suggestions for Archive corner should be sent to the Editor.



# OBITUARIES

## SUDDEN DEATH OF EUROPEAN FENCING PRESIDENT

### Frantisek Janda passes away on route to Tokyo World Cup

British Fencing is sad to announce that the President of the European Fencing Confederation, Frantisek Janda, has passed away during a flight to Tokyo where he was due to attend this weekend's Men's Foil World Cup.

Early reports suggest that President Janda, who was 48 years old, suffered from a heart attack that ended his life. Having recently been re-elected to the position of EFC President, the Czech Republic national was also a member of the FIE's Executive Committee.

A fencing fan, first and foremost, President Janda had a collection of fencing memorabilia that was the envy of many. He lent much of his collection to the touring exhibition hosted by the FIE during its centennial year.

British Fencing's President, Hilary Philbin, said: "I am shocked to hear the news about Frantisek, which is very sad indeed. Frantisek has made a huge contribution to the world of fencing and to Europe in particular. He will be very much missed."

British Fencing extends its condolences to President Janda's friends and family, the European Fencing Confederation and the fencing community in the Czech Republic.

3rd November 2015



Frantisek Janda (photo by Augusto Bizzi)

## DR. CSABA FENYVESI OBITUARY

Urgent letter

N°8-15, 05.11.2015



Dear President,

Death of Csaba Fenyvesi (HUN)

It is with great sorrow that we learned of the passing of Dr. Csaba Fenyvesi at the age of 72, after a short but severe period of illness.

Csaba Fenyvesi was born on April 14, 1943. As an epee fencer, he was three-time Olympic champion and three-time world champion.

He was Olympic champion in 1972 in the Olympic Games of Munich, in both individual and team events and Olympic champion in 1968, in the Olympic Games of Mexico City, in the team event.

In the World Championships Csaba Fenyvesi won:

- three gold medals by team in 1970, 1971 and 1978
- two silver medals by team in 1969 and 1973
- one bronze medal in individual in 1970
- two bronze medals by team in 1967 and 1975

After his fencing career, Csaba Fenyvesi started to work as a plastic surgeon, and from 1972 he was a cancer researcher surgeon and clinical adjunct.

He was a guest researcher at the US-based United Virginia Cancer Research Institute, and he achieved significant results in tumour surgery. In 1994 he became managing doctor of an American foundation's cancer research institute.

He was manager of the fencing section of BVSC sport club in Budapest for many years, and was a member of the executive board of the Hungarian Fencing Federation.

He will be remembered forever – the Hungarian Fencing Federation has lost one of their own.

We would like to express our sincere condolences and sympathy to his family, friends and to the Hungarian Fencing Federation in these difficult times.

Alisher Usmanov  
President

# Results

## YOUTH DOMESTIC

### BRC KIDDERMINSTER JUNIOR EPEE, 29th–30th AUGUST

#### U20 MEN'S EPEE

1 NICHOLS, Harrison	REDHILL REIGATE
2 JORDAN, Owen	TOUCHE FENCING CLUB
3 SINCLAIR, Aml	BRIXTON
3 STEVENS, Joshua	GLASTONBURY

#### U20 WOMEN'S EPEE

1 SICA, Susan Maria	S.S. LAZIO SCHERMA
	ARICCIA
2 LAWSON, Danielle	RGS WORCESTER
3 GUNDRY, Jessica	TRURO
3 PHILLIPSON, Elsa	CADS

#### U13 BOY'S EPEE

1 JEAL, James	WINGERWORTH
2 OSBORNE, Will	RGS WORCESTER
3 PECK, Angus	TOUCHE-TOWCESTER
3 TAIWO-WILLIAMS, Louis	5 BOROUGHS
	PENTATHLON

#### U13 GIRL'S EPEE

1 MCCORMACK, Maisie	OPS
2 MILES, Katy	PLYMOUTH
3 BRUZGO, Wictoria	STOURPORT
3 WREYFORD, Rebecca	HEREFORDSHIRE

### BRC LEON PAUL JUNIOR FOIL, 29th–30th AUGUST

#### U20 MEN'S FOIL

1 DOSA, Daniel	FIGHTING FIT FENCING
2 RAI, Rajan	N/A
3 BIRD, Harry	SALLE BOSTON
3 SPENCER-TAYLOR, Alexander	SHEFFIELD
	BUCCANEERS

#### U20 WOMEN'S FOIL

1 FIHOSY, Ayesha	SALLE BOSTON
2 CAMPBELL, Yasmin	FIGHTING FIT FENCING
3 BEARDMORE, Kate	FIGHTING FIT FENCING
3 CHART, Yvonne	TRURO

### SAINSBURY'S SCHOOL GAMES, 3rd–6th SEPTEMBER

#### BOY'S EPEE

1 STEED, Oliver	ENG
2 JORDAN, Owen	ENG
3 CAFARO, Jack	WAL
3 SLATER, Philip	NIR

#### GIRL'S EPEE

1 LAWSON, Danielle	ENG
2 WAKEFIELD, Rebecca	ENG
3 HIDE, Victoria	ENG
3 JOHNSON, Kerrie	NIR

#### MIXED WHEELCHAIR EPEE

1 PASZKOWSKI, Kasjan	ENG
2 PUCKEY, Rebecca	ENG
3 THOMAS, James	ENG
3 WADDELL, Joshua	ENG

#### BOY'S FOIL

1 MINOTT, Kamal	ENG
2 LEWIS, Celyn	WAL
3 KISS, Daniel	ENG
3 MILLAR, Theo	NIR

#### GIRL'S FOIL

1 BEARDMORE, Kate	ENG
2 FEKLISTOVA, Katrina	ENG
3 BEATTIE, Keziah	NIR
3 ROWLAND, Jade	ENG

#### MIXED WHEELCHAIR FOIL

1 PUCKEY, Rebecca	ENG
2 PASZKOWSKI, Kasjan	ENG
3 THOMAS, James	ENG
3 WADDELL, Joshua	ENG

#### BOY'S SABRE

1 CRAZE, Jamie	ENG
2 REN, Ethan	WAL
3 GENTZ, Philipp	SCO
3 WATT, Caspian	ENG

#### GIRL'S SABRE

1 CORBY, Jessica	SCO
2 GLADDISH, Laura	ENG
3 HUTTON, Daisy	ENG
3 MOFFAT, Lizzie	ENG

#### MIXED WHEELCHAIR SABRE

1 PUCKEY, Rebecca	ENG
2 PASZKOWSKI, Kasjan	ENG
3 THOMAS, James	ENG
3 WADDELL, Joshua	ENG

### MILLFIELD CADET SABRE, 13th SEPTEMBER

#### MEN'S SABRE

1 HAMILTON, Zachary	SHAKESPEARE'S
	SWORDS
2 POCKNELL, Joe	SHAKESPEARE'S
	SWORDS
3 EDWARDS, James	MARSHALL
3 HOLDSWORTH, Bertie	TRURO

#### WOMEN'S SABRE

1 FASHOKUN, Maia	TRURO
2 POTTER, Sophia	SHAKESPEARE'S
	SWORDS
3 YANG, Lumeng	CAMDEN
3 MOFFATT, Lizzie	SHAKESPEARE'S
	SWORDS

### STRATFORD CADET SABRE BRC, 3rd–4th OCTOBER

#### BOY'S SABRE

1 HOLDSWORTH, Bertie	TRURO
2 POCKNELL, Joe	SHAKESPEARE'S
	SWORDS
3 HAMILTON, Thomas Zachary	SHAKESPEARE'S
	SWORDS
3 MATRICCIANI, Noah	FOOTHILLS

#### GIRL'S SABRE

1 POTTER, Sophia	SHAKESPEARE'S
	SWORDS
2 FASHOKUN, Maia	TRURO
3 MOFFAT, Lizzie	SHAKESPEARE'S
	SWORDS
3 O'REILLY, Hannah	MX

### LEON PAUL BRC CADET EPEE, 10th OCTOBER 2015

#### BOY'S EPEE

1 MACLENNAN, Robert	ABINGDON
2 MORRIS, George	STOCKPORT
3 SELLS, Alexander	PLYMOUTH
3 WILLCOX, Joshua	KNIGHTSBRIDGE
	FENCING CLUB

#### GIRL'S EPEE

1 SUMMERS, Charlotte	PENTATHLON
2 LOUIS, Avery	KNIGHTSBRIDGE
	FENCING CLUB
3 BISHOP, Catherine	PLYMOUTH FENCING
	CLUB
3 SHEFFIELD, Laura	BRIXTON

### LEON PAUL BRC CADET FOIL, 31st OCTOBER 2015

#### BOY'S FOIL

1 ASHBY, Douggie	ST BENEDICTS
2 PALLIER, Sebastian	FENCERS CLUB
	LONDON
3 HOWLETT, Edmund	ARNOLD CARLTON
	SWORD CLUB
3 JOLLEY, Isaac	CHICHESTER FENCING
	CLUB

#### GIRL'S FOIL

1 BABEVA, Seville	U/A
2 HOME, Amy	SWORD KISS
3 GILL, Isabella	SALLE PAUL
3 SHAW, Rachel	NEWHAM SWORDS

### ELITE EPEE AUTUMN, 31st OCTOBER–1st NOVEMBER 2015

#### U11 BOY'S EPEE

1 BROOKE, Alec	KNIGHTSBRIDGE
2 BIANCHI, Niccolo	CHELSEA
3 PALANO, Davide	KNIGHTSBRIDGE
3 KEW, Liam	R&REC

#### U11 GIRL'S EPEE

1 LOO, Eleanor	KNIGHTSBRIDGE
2 LATTANZIO, Charlotte	KNIGHTSBRIDGE
3 O'NEILL, Grace	DACORUM
3 HADALIN, Helga	SALLE HADALIN

#### U13 BOY'S EPEE

1 FERGUSON, William	OPS EPEE CLUB
2 TAYLOR, Mark	CLFS
3 LEVI, Renzo	CHELSEA
3 JONES, Hal	WHITGIFT

#### U13 GIRL'S EPEE

1 HADALIN, Henriette	SALLE HADALIN
2 BLACK, Abagael	PLYMOUTH
3 SUMMERS, Isabella	R&REC
3 BOUCHER-ROWE, Sarah	KNIGHTSBRIDGE

#### U16 BOY'S EPEE

1 ROACH, Tariq	WHITGIFT
2 FOULSHAM, Jacob	R&REC

3 CAREY, Patrick	TSCA SWORDS
3 BEGLEY-JONES, Murray	ST. GEORGE'S COLLEGE

#### U16 GIRL'S EPEE

1 HERRLING, Messina	KNIGHTSBRIDGE
2 EDWARDS, Alys	R&REC
3 PARSONS, Katie-May	MILLFIELD
3 HENDERSON-ROE, Maia	CADS

### MILLFIELD LPJS 2015, 8th–9th NOVEMBER 2015

#### U9 BOY'S EPEE

1 ROSELLI, Lorenzo	KNIG
2 CAMPBELL, Jake	CENTL
3 BEAUTYMAN, Cador	SWIN
3 GIURLANI, Gastone	CENTL

#### U9 GIRL'S EPEE

1 DI LEO, Livia	CENTL
2 SURESH, Zoya	CENTL
3 FOSTER, Sophia	KENSINGTON
3 PESCIARELLI, Elena	KENSINGTON

#### U11 BOY'S EPEE

1 MIRICA, Florin	TRUR
2 EL-SAIE, Zayd	CHEL
3 HUCKLE, Ben	CRAWS
3 RAMSEY, Galeh	TRUR

#### U11 GIRL'S EPEE

1 GOLDEN, Eve	NEWCSTL
2 SHAHENS SHAH, Carlotta	KNIG
3 JACKSON, Ellie	SKIP
3 LOO, Eleanor	KNIG

#### U13 BOY'S EPEE

1 FOULSHAM, Jacob	REDH&R
2 JACKSON, Sam	REDH&R
3 KEW, Ethan	HARR
3 JEAL, James	

#### U13 GIRL'S EPEE

1 MCCORMACK, Masie	OUNDS
2 MABBS, Sophie	MILL
3 CHUNG-HALPERN, Gisela	CHEL
3 SISMANOVIC, Alice	MILL

#### U15 BOY'S EPEE

1 ATKINSON, Owen	EASTDURHAM
2 JOHANSSON, Hjalman	KRFC
3 HARKNESS, Will	KRFC
3 BRAZIER, Liam	KRFC

#### U15 GIRL'S EPEE

1 AL-WAGGA, Yasmin	BATHS
2 CHUNG-HALPERN, Ines	CHEL
3 FARMANFARMAIAN, Ariana	BRIX
3 WATKINS, Abigail	RGSWH

### NORTHERN IRELAND JUNIOR FOIL SERIES ROUND 1, 8th NOVEMBER 2015

#### U10 MIXED

1 MAGEE, Jessica	PEMBROKE
2 GAUTIER-LOFTUS, Leon	PEMBROKE
3 MORIARTY-SMYTH, Myles	PEMBROKE
3 XU-RAN PIAO, Megan	PEMBROKE

#### U12 BOY'S

1 SOSA SMATRALA, Claudio	PEMBROKE
2 TURKIEWICZ, Szymon	FLO
3 MACNULTY, Eoin	PEMBROKE
3 MORIARTY-SMYTH, James	PEMBROKE

#### U12 GIRL'S

1 LEE, Dasha	PEMBROKE
2 LARGEY, Marisa	LISBURN GLADIATORS
3 MILLAR, Tara	SULLIVAN UPPER
3 PEARDON, Alice	PEMBROKE

#### U14 BOY'S

1 MCMULLAN, Finn	FLO
2 MCKAY, Matthew	RBAI
3 CONNERY, Jonathan	GROSVENOR
3 O'CONNELL, Zak	PEMBROKE

#### U14 GIRL'S

1 SHAW, Sarah	HUNTERHOUSE
2 MCCONVEY, Catherine	FLO
3 MAGINN, Erin	SULLIVAN UPPER
3 MCPHERSON, Phoebe	SULLIVAN UPPER

#### U16 BOY'S

1 THOMPSON, Michael	RBAI
2 COCKBURN, Robbie	GROSVENOR
3 GIRVIN, William	GROSVENOR
3 SIGURDSSON, Daniel	GROSVENOR

#### U16 GIRL'S

1 VELMA, Emilia	PEMBROKE
2 REID, Ella	SULLIVAN UPPER
3 SMYTH, Rachel	SULLIVAN UPPER
3 WIGZELL, Kiara	PEMBROKE

# Results (continued)

## COCKS MOORS WOODS EPEE, 14th NOVEMBER 2015

### U9 BOY'S

1 BEAUTYMAN, Cador	MARLB
2 ABERDEEN, Toby	NEWCF
3 BOWDLER, Finn	PACKS
3 STEGEMAN, Oliver	OPSEC

### U9 GIRL'S

1 ABERDEEN, Eve	NEWCF
2 LEAVESLEY, Emily	WING
3 BELL, Rosie	KINGSS
3 ROSS, Libby	BIRCS

### U11 BOY'S

1 KAMSTRA, Leo	COBH
2 TAIWO-WILLIAMS, Louis	SBORPEN
3 STEPP, Alexander	WOLVGS
3 SCOTT, Edward	PACKS

### U11 GIRL'S

1 GOLDEN, Eve	TEAMN
2 PEDLER, Erin	BRIX
3 O'NEILL, Grace	DACO
3 TARAS, Abigail	MUCHW

### U13 BOY'S

1 FOULSHAM, Jacob	REDH&R
2 GIBSON, Harry	NORTF
3 JEAL, James	WING
3 KEW, Ethan	REDH&R

### U13 GIRL'S

1 MCCORMACK, Maisie	OPSEC
2 CHENNELLS, Poppy	NEWCF
3 KRZYZANIAK, Patrycja	CHELSEA
3 TREVETHAN, Lottie	MALV

### U15 BOY'S

1 MACPHERSON (C), Steven	BEXL
2 BOYLE (C), Douglas	WARWS
3 WILLIAMS (C), Finlay	WARWS
3 PANAYOTOV (C), Chavdar	KRFC

### U15 GIRL'S

1 HENDERSON-ROE (C), Maia	CADS
2 WATKINS, Abigail	RGSWORC
3 NOBLE (C), Niamh	OPSEC
3 BARNES (C), Rachel	MUCHW

## YOUTH INTERNATIONAL

### CADET MEN'S EPEE – ANKARA, 26th–27th SEPTEMBER

1 DICKINSON, Matthew	GBR
2 THEWANGER, Emil	AUT
3 SAY, Ali Ege	EGY
3 TSOOKAS, Asterios	GRE

### CADET WOMEN'S SABRE – GODOLLO, 26th–27th SEPTEMBER

1 MAXWELL, Caitlin	GBR
2 FUNKE, Julike	GER
3 LINDER, Kara	USA
3 PUSZTAI, Liza	HUN

### GUATEMALA CITY JUNIOR WOMEN'S FOIL WORLD CUP, 10th OCTOBER

1 FILBY, Sarah	CAN
2 CECCHINI, Gabriela	BRA
3 PISTOIA, Mariana	BRA
3 CHART, Yvonne	GBR

### CADET MEN'S FOIL – FLORINA, 17th–18th OCTOBER

1 CANDESCU, Cristian	ROU
2 DE Almeida, Dominic	GBR
3 LANDORPH, Sophus	DEN
3 NEILSON, Ian	BUL

### CADET WOMEN'S SABRE – MEYLAN, 17th–18th OCTOBER

1 POUPINET, Anne	GEMENOS
2 MAXWELL, Caitlin	TRURO FENCING CLUB
3 HERNANDEZ Munoz, Elena	SALA DE ARMAS MADRID
3 NOUTCHA, Sarah-Camille	STRASBOURG UC

### PLOVDIV JUNIOR MEN'S SABRE WORLD CUP, 14th NOVEMBER

1 NATANZON, Benjamin	USA
2 CAVALIERE, Dario	ITA
3 DEARY, William	GBR
3 DREOSSI, Leonardo	ITA

## SENIOR DOMESTIC

### ESSEX OPEN, 12–13 SEPTEMBER 2015

#### MEN'S EPEE

1 NICHOLS, Harrison	GBR	REDHILL & REIGATE
2 RUSEV, Rosislav	BUL	BRIXTON

3 EDWARDS, Tom	GBR	REDHILL & REIGATE
3 MARSH, Philip	GBR	BATH SWORD

#### WOMEN'S EPEE

1 BOTTOMS, Lindsay	GBR	CADS
2 PHILLIPSON, Elsa	GBR	DREAM
3 HULL, Nicola	GBR	HAVERSTOCK
3 ONIYE, Marg	GBR	HAVERSTOCK

#### MEN'S FOIL

1 MEPSTEAD, Marcus	GBR	NEWHAM SWORDS
2 RATTAN, Amol Singh	GBR	NEWHAM SWORDS

#### WOMEN'S FOIL

3 COOK, Keith	GBR	SALLE
3 LLOYD, Alexander	GBR	HOLYROOD
3 LLOYD, Alexander	GBR	ZFW

#### MEN'S SABRE

1 DICKSON, Chloe	GBR	EDINBURGH
2 MULLINS, Philippa	GBR	SALLE

#### WOMEN'S SABRE

3 COOK, Catherine	GBR	BOSTON
3 DUXBURY, Victoria	GBR	EDINBURGH
3 DUXBURY, Victoria	IRL	EDINBURGH

#### MEN'S SABRE

1 DAVIS, Paul	GBR	PAUL DAVIS FENCING ACADEMY
2 BARBOUR, Luke	GBR	PAUL DAVIS FENCING ACADEMY

#### WOMEN'S SABRE

3 FARRER, Dominic	GBR	RAF
3 SNOWDON, Josh	GBR	BATH SWORD

#### WOMEN'S SABRE

1 CARSON, Vicky	GBR	PAUL DAVIS FENCING ACADEMY
2 ELSEGOOD, Molly	GBR	AFFONDO
3 BAKER, Amy	GBR	AFFONDO
3 HOOPER, Chloe	GBR	ROYAL HOLLOWAY

#### MEN'S SABRE

2 ELSEGOOD, Molly	GBR	AFFONDO
3 BAKER, Amy	GBR	AFFONDO
3 HOOPER, Chloe	GBR	ROYAL HOLLOWAY

#### MEN'S INTERMEDIATE FOIL

1 FARRER, Dominic	GBR	RAF
2 NAULLS, Michael	GBR	GREAT YARMOUTH AND WAVENEY

3 CREES, Chris	GBR	SALLE PAUL
3 PAPPOUS, Ioannis	GBR	UEA

### 3rd LEON PAUL SABRE OPEN, 12th SEPTEMBER 2015

#### MEN'S SABRE

1 BOTELER, Harry	TRURO
2 ROGERSON, Noah	TRURO
3 MILLER, Curtis	CAMDEN
3 SAUNDERS, Brynmor	TRURO

#### WOMEN'S SABRE

1 MAXWELL, Caitlin	TRURO
2 WILLIAMS, Sophie	TRURO
3 HUTCHISON, Jo	CAMDEN
3 SANCROFT, Jennifer	SALLE ROLLO

3 EDWARDS, Tom	GBR	REDHILL & REIGATE
3 MARSH, Philip	GBR	BATH SWORD

#### WOMEN'S EPEE

1 BOTTOMS, Lindsay	GBR	CADS
2 PHILLIPSON, Elsa	GBR	DREAM
3 HULL, Nicola	GBR	HAVERSTOCK
3 ONIYE, Marg	GBR	HAVERSTOCK

#### MEN'S FOIL

1 MEPSTEAD, Marcus	GBR	NEWHAM SWORDS
2 RATTAN, Amol Singh	GBR	NEWHAM SWORDS

#### WOMEN'S FOIL

3 COOK, Keith	GBR	SALLE
3 LLOYD, Alexander	GBR	HOLYROOD
3 LLOYD, Alexander	GBR	ZFW

#### MEN'S SABRE

1 DICKSON, Chloe	GBR	EDINBURGH
2 MULLINS, Philippa	GBR	SALLE

#### WOMEN'S SABRE

3 COOK, Catherine	GBR	BOSTON
3 DUXBURY, Victoria	GBR	EDINBURGH
3 DUXBURY, Victoria	IRL	EDINBURGH

#### MEN'S SABRE

1 DAVIS, Paul	GBR	PAUL DAVIS FENCING ACADEMY
2 BARBOUR, Luke	GBR	PAUL DAVIS FENCING ACADEMY

#### WOMEN'S SABRE

3 FARRER, Dominic	GBR	RAF
3 SNOWDON, Josh	GBR	BATH SWORD

#### WOMEN'S SABRE

1 CARSON, Vicky	GBR	PAUL DAVIS FENCING ACADEMY
2 ELSEGOOD, Molly	GBR	AFFONDO
3 BAKER, Amy	GBR	AFFONDO
3 HOOPER, Chloe	GBR	ROYAL HOLLOWAY

## WOMEN'S SABRE

1 WILLIAMS, Sophie	TRURO
2 CHART, Maria	TRURO
3 DAYKIN, Kate	OSSIAN
3 GUARINO, Michelle	ABERDEEN C

## SHROPSHIRE OPEN, 26th–27th SEPTEMBER 2015

### MEN'S EPEE

1 GALLIMORE-TALLEN, Will	FOUR OF CLUBS
2 KAZIK, Tomas	SUTTON COLDFIELD
3 EAMES, Pete	LP EPEE
3 RAPSON, Alec	SHREWSBURY FC

### WOMEN'S EPEE

1 MCCORMACK, Amelia	OPS
2 JUHASZ, Vera	N/A
3 DUXON, Emma	CHILWELL BLADES
3 HOWSER, Kate	OPS

### MEN'S FOIL

1 MORRIS, Richard	CAMBRIDGE UNI
2 HOWLETT, Edmund	A-C SWORD
3 ELLIKER, Daniel	COCKSMOORS WOODS FC
3 MCKAY, Mike	SHEFFIELD BUCCANEERS

### WOMEN'S FOIL

1 ELLIS, Bethany	WREKIN SWORD
2 PEARCE, Madison	OXFORD UNI FC
3 ARCHER, Katie	WEST LANC'S MALLARD
3 CLAYTON, Jane	MALLARD

### MEN'S SABRE

1 BALES, Michael	NOTTS UNI
2 MITCHELL-GOUGH, Warick	WREKIN SWORD
3 GHOSH, Julian	CAMDEN
3 JACOB, Michael	BIRMINGHAM FC

### WOMEN'S SABRE

1 LASANCE, Rachel	TBC
2 MOFFAT, Alice	STRATFORD FC
3 MOFFAT, Lizzie	STRATFORD FC
3 POTTER, Emma	STOURBRIDGE

### WOMEN'S SABRE

1 LASANCE, Rachel	TBC
2 MOFFAT, Alice	STRATFORD FC
3 MOFFAT, Lizzie	STRATFORD FC
3 POTTER, Emma	STOURBRIDGE

### WOMEN'S SABRE

1 DEARY, William	TRURO
2 ROGERSON, Noah	TRURO
3 CLARKE, Michael	TRURO
3 MAXWELL, Joshua	TRURO

### WOMEN'S SABRE

1 CORBY, Jessica	SALLE OSSIAN
2 MAXWELL, Caitlin	TRURO
3 GLADDISH, Laura	MX
3 PLEASANT, Bridget	CAMDEN

### MEN'S TEAM

1 TRURO A	M CLARKE/W DEARY/ J MAXWELL/N ROGERSON
2 SHAKESPEARE'S SWORDS A	B HALLIWELL/ W HALLIWELL/ G SUDDARDS/C WATT S AYDAROV/ B HOLDSWORTH/ N HOWES
3 TRURO B	

### WOMEN'S TEAM

1 #WINNERWINNERCHICKENDINNER	K DAYKIN/S POTTER/ L STEER
2 TRURO A	M CHART/C MAXWELL/ L WOOD
3 RIVINGTON Park	A DAVIES/R LASANCE/ E NIGHTINGALE/E RUAUX

## LONDON INTERNATIONAL OPEN, 3rd–4th OCTOBER 2015

### MEN'S EPEE – MILLER HALLET CUP

1 PERRY, Nick	HAVERSTOCK
2 SINCLAIR, Aml	BRIXTON
3 NICHOLS, Harrison	REDHILL REIGATE
3 WORMAN, Craig	BRIXTON

### WOMEN'S EPEE – MILNER-BARRY CUP

1 MCGEEVER, Jenny	PENTATHLON IRELAND
2 POWELL, Elisabeth	KENILWORTH SWORD
3 BRYSON, Kerenza	PLYMOUTH FENCING CLUB
3 SMITH, Katrina	TRURO

## SUSSEX OPEN, 10th OCTOBER 2015

### MEN'S EPEE

1 SCRIMSHAW, Jason	REDHILL AND REIGATE EPEE
2 JOYNER, Joe	GRAVESHAM
3 BARNETT, Keith	TRURO
3 GARDNER, Aaron	CRAWLEY SWORD CLUB



**WOMEN'S EPEE**

- 1 MAYLE, Rebecca  
2 THOULESS, Helen  
T<sub>3</sub> WREN, Alex

READING FENCING CLUB  
STREATHAM STRATHCLYDE UNIVERSITY  
TENTERDEN

- T<sub>3</sub> ATKINS, Hannah  
**MEN'S FOIL**

- 1 HENDRIE, George  
2 JOLLEY, Isaac  
3 CAPILLO, Antonio  
3 HENDRIE, Thomas

CHICHESTER FENCING CLUB  
CHICHESTER FENCING CLUB  
LANSDOWNE CLUB  
CHICHESTER FENCING CLUB

**WOMEN'S FOIL**

- 1 HYMAN, Amy  
2 CSERNY, Erika  
3 THOULESS, Helen  
3 PATEL, Sarena

SALLE BOSTON  
CENTRAL LONDON FENCING CL  
STREATHAM  
ALDERSHOT

**BEDFORD EPEE, 11th OCTOBER 2015****MEN'S EPEE**

- 1 BERRIMAN, Quentin  
2 POLLARD, Anton  
3 HALL, Richard  
3 MAYNARD, Calum

BEDFORD  
HAVERSTOCK  
SALLE URSA  
EGHAM

**WOMEN'S EPEE**

- 1 HILLIER, Verity  
2 MCCORMACK, Amelia  
3 DALLA Pria, Alessia  
3 HULL, Nicola

READING OPS  
LONDON FENCING CLUB  
DREAM FENCING CLUB

**NORTH WEST OPEN, 25th OCTOBER 2015****MEN'S EPEE**

- 1 SLATER, Philip  
2 CORCORAN, Geoffrey  
3 GIRVIN, William  
3 SALTER, Duncan

LISBURN GLADIATORS  
SALLE DUBLIN  
GROSVENOR  
PEMBROKE

**WOMEN'S EPEE**

- 1 JOHNSON, Kerrie  
2 JOHNSON, Lucy  
3 BOELT-HINDSGAUL, Camille  
3 SLATER, Charlotte

PLYMOUTH  
DUFC  
DUFC  
LISBURN GLADIATORS

**MEN'S FOIL**

- 1 SLATER, Philip  
2 VERDON, Paul  
3 DUFFIN-MURRAY, Aneurin  
3 HOULDSWORTH, Alastair

LISBURN GLADIATORS  
GROSVENOR  
RBAI/GROSVENOR  
BELFAST FENCING CLUB

**WOMEN'S FOIL**

- 1 BEATTIE, Keziah  
2 MAGINN, Emily  
3 CORMICAN, Ciara  
3 SLATER, Charlotte

GROSVENOR  
SULLIVAN/GROSVENOR  
LISBURN GLADIATORS  
LISBURN GLADIATORS

**MEN'S SABRE**

- 1 MURRAY, Brian  
2 MCCABE, John  
3 DONNELLY, Jonathan  
3 KELLEHER, Colm

FOYLE FENCING  
BOYNE VALLEY  
QUB  
DUFC

**WOMEN'S SABRE**

- 1 TAYLOR, Beth  
2 GOSLIN, Sarah  
3 CORMICAN, Ciara  
3 MARSHALL, Susanne

LISBURN GLADIATORS  
DKIT  
LISBURN GLADIATORS  
FOYLE FENCING

**ELITE EPEE AUTUMN, 31st OCTOBER–1st NOVEMBER 2015****MEN'S EPEE**

- 1 EDWARDS, Tom  
2 CURRAN Jones, Tomas  
3 HENDERSON, Matt  
3 RUSSELL, James

R&REC  
BRIXTON  
LEON PAUL EPEE  
ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS

**WELSH OPEN, 7th–8th NOVEMBER 2015****MEN'S EPEE**

- 1 HENDERSON, Matt  
2 EDWARDS, Tom  
3 CHOONG, Joseph  
3 HAY, Christopher

LEON PAUL EPEE  
REDHILL & REIGATE EPEE  
PENTATHLON GB  
EXETER CITY FENCING CLUB

**WOMEN'S EPEE**

- 1 RADFORD, Amy  
2 SPENCE, Mhairi  
3 POWELL, Elisabeth  
3 BOTTOMS, Lindsay

CARDIFF UNIVERSITY  
PENTATHLON GB  
KENILWORTH SWORD  
BEDFORD

**MEN'S FOIL**

- 1 OSTACCHINI, Glen  
2 DEAMER, Luke  
3 BILLING, Matthew  
3 YUEN, James

SALLE BOSTON  
CARDIFF UNIVERSITY  
SUSSEX HOUSE  
MILLFIELD

**WOMEN'S FOIL**

- 1 PERETTI, Costanza Maria  
2 MOSS, Amber  
3 KWOK, Rachel  
3 LEE (C), Anna

CARDIFF UNIVERSITY  
A&C  
ACADEMY  
PEMBROKE

**MEN'S SABRE**

- 1 DEARY, William  
2 AIYENURO, Soji  
3 MILLER, Curtis  
3 BOTELER, Harry  
1 RUUAUX, Emily  
2 SOSNOWSKA, Izabela

TRURO  
CAMDEN  
CAMDEN  
TRURO

- 3 PLEASANT, Bridget  
3 DAYKIN, Kate

RIVINGTON PARK  
EXETER CITY FENCING CLUB  
CAMDEN  
SALLE OSSIAN

**LEEDS OPEN, 14th–15th NOVEMBER 2015****MEN'S EPEE**

- 1 JORDAN, Owen  
2 STEWART-WATSON, David

LEON PAUL FENCING CENTRE  
SHEFFIELD UNIVERSITY  
FENCING CLUB  
BEDFORD  
WINGERWORTH

- 3 PARTRIDGE, George  
3 COOPER, Matthew

**WOMEN'S EPEE**

- 1 LAWRENCE, Hannah  
2 NESBITT, Hannah  
3 HIDE, Victoria  
3 FOLLETT, Charlie

WINGERWORTH  
LEON PAUL EPEE  
NEWCASTLE  
MALVERN

**MEN'S FOIL**

- 1 ALEXANDER, David  
2 ARBELET, Alexandre  
3 FITTON, Matthew

NOTTINGHAM CAVS  
SALLE HOLYROOD  
OXFORD UNIVERSITY  
FENCING CLUB  
SALLE BOSTON

- 3 WILD, Chris

**WOMEN'S FOIL**

- 1 HOME, Amy  
2 NEWTON-HUGHES, Phoebe  
3 JONES, Rachel  
3 KYLLMANN Pingarron, Carolina

SALLE KISS  
SHEFFIELD  
BUCCANEERS  
SALLE KISS  
SHEFFIELD UNI

**MEN'S SABRE**

- 1 BOWLEY, Stan  
2 TULLY, Jacob  
3 BALES, Michael  
3 COOPER, Sam

ASTON UNI  
MARSHALL  
NOTTINGHAM UNI  
SHEFFIELD UNIVERSITY  
FENCING CLUB

**WOMEN'S SABRE**

- 1 JONES, Libby  
2 WALLER, Emma  
3 NAREY, Michelle  
3 STRIHA, Alina

LIVERPOOL FENCING CLUB  
RIDINGS  
BATH SWORD  
LEEDS UNI

**DERRY OPEN, 14th–15th NOVEMBER 2015****MEN'S EPEE**

- 1 SLATER, Philip  
2 BURNSIDE, Jonathan  
3 CORCORAN, Geoffrey  
3 VERDON, Paul

LISBURN GLADIATORS  
FOYLE FENCING  
SALLE DUBLIN  
GROSVENOR/RBAI

**WOMEN'S EPEE**

- 1 SLATER, Charlotte  
2 DONAGHEY, Laura  
3 MCGONAGLE, Rosie  
3 MONTGOMERY, Tasha

LISBURN GLADIATORS  
UNATTACHED  
FOYLE FENCING  
QUB

**MEN'S FOIL**

- 1 HOULDSWORTH, Alastair  
2 VERDON, Paul  
3 SLATER, Philip  
3 WALLACE, Luke

BELFAST FENCING  
GROSVENOR/RBAI  
LISBURN GLADIATORS  
GROSVENOR

**WOMEN'S FOIL**

- 1 MCCLELLAND, Lara  
2 GILLESPIE, Katie  
3 MAGINN, Emily  
3 SLATER, Charlotte

KINGS COLLEGE  
FENCING  
QUB  
SULLIVAN/GROSVENOR  
LISBURN GLADIATORS

**MEN'S SABRE**

- 1 DOWSE, Kieran  
2 CONNOLLY, David  
3 MCCABE, John  
3 MURRAY, Brian

MX FENCING  
FOYLE FENCING  
BVFC  
FOYLE FENCING

**WOMEN'S SABRE**

- 1 TAYLOR, Beth  
2 GOSLIN, Sarah  
3 CORMICAN, Ciara  
3 STANKEVICIUTE, Deimante

LISBURN GLADIATORS  
DKIT  
LISBURN GLADIATORS  
IT CARLOW

**3rd LEON PAUL OPEN FOIL, 14th–15th NOVEMBER 2015****MEN'S FOIL**

- 1 BIRD, Harry  
2 OSTACCHINI, Glen  
3 BATES, Ben  
3 DE-ALMEIDA, Dominic

SALLE BOSTON  
SALLE BOSTON  
BATH SWORD CLUB  
FIGHTING FIT FENCING

**WOMEN'S FOIL**

- 1 FIHOSY, Ayesha  
2 CAMPBELL, Yasmin  
3 ANUSZEWSKA, Justyna  
3 COOK, Catherine

SALLE BOSTON  
FIGHTING FIT FENCING  
AZS-AWFIS GDANSK  
EDINBURGH FENCING CLUB

**COCKS MOORS WOODS EPEE, 14th NOVEMBER 2015****MEN'S EPEE**

- 1 HOWSER (V), Chris  
2 RUSSO, Marco  
3 KAZIK, Tomas  
3 HALL, Richard

OPSEC  
WIMB  
SUTTC  
SALLU

**WOMEN'S EPEE**

- 1 HOWSER, Kate  
2 FOSU, Yasmine  
3 HENDERSON-ROE (C), Maia  
3 MCCORMACK (J), Amelia

OPSEC  
MLFD  
CADS  
OPSEC

**M8 OPEN 2015, 21st–22nd NOVEMBER 2015****MEN'S EPEE**

- 1 WOOLLARD, Jonathan  
2 GAZALET, Adam  
3 COLLIGNON, Nicolas  
3 PAPADOPOULOS, Alex

WALLACE FA  
GWFC  
EUFC  
DUNBLANE FENCING CLUB

**WOMEN'S EPEE**

- 1 TIMMINS, Alison  
2 DE Sainte Croix, Mhairi  
3 FIGGE, Miriam

WALLACE  
WALLACE FA  
DUNDEE UNI FENCING CLUB  
DUNDEE UNI

- 3 LEE, Natasha

**MEN'S FOIL**

- 1 LEGKOVSKY, Mark  
2 WEBSTER, John  
3 ARBELET, Alexandre  
3 BROUGHTON, Charlie

EDINBURGH UNI  
ABERDEEN FC  
SALLE HOLYROOD  
SALLE HOLYROOD

**WOMEN'S FOIL**

- 1 SUDDERICK, Zoe

EDINBURGH FENCING CLUB  
UNATTACHED  
EUFC  
WFFC

- 2 GIFFORD, Mhairi  
3 COYLE, Fiona  
3 FIELDING, Chloe

**MEN'S SABRE**

- 1 MCLELLAN, Sam  
2 ALVARES-PERES, Mark  
3 LLEWELLYN, Ethan  
3 RAPIER, Richard

SALLE OSSIAN  
SALLE OSSIAN  
SALLE OSSIAN  
EDINBURGH FENCING CLUB

**WOMEN'S SABRE**

- 1 HAMPSON, Sarah-Jane  
2 THOMSON, Catriona  
3 COYLE, Fiona  
3 KEITH, Sarah

SALLE OSSIAN  
SALLE ROLLO  
EUFC  
ABERDEEN UNIVERSITY

**SENIOR INTERNATIONAL****MEN'S FOIL SAN JOSE WORLD CUP, 16th OCTOBER**

- 1 SAFIN, Timur  
2 DAVIS, James-Andrew  
3 CADOT, Jeremy  
3 OTA, Yuki

RUS  
GBR  
FRA  
JPN

**MEN'S FOIL TOURING GRAND PRIX, 29th NOVEMBER**

- 1 MA, Jianfei  
2 KRUSE Richard  
3 LEE Kwanghyun  
3 NISTA Lorenzo

CHN  
GBR  
KOR  
ITA

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best value for FIE foil blades



best value for FIE masks\*



best value for tournament scoring



best value for kids gear\*



best value for 350n kit \*



best value for FIE epee blades

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- electric foil blade .. £19.99
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