

CODE OF CONDUCT

(also see club rules on reverse)

SFM is open to anyone with an interest in the sport of fencing. Participation in SFM however, is a privilege, not a right. Along with this privilege come certain expectations of behavior by the club's staff, volunteers & members as well as the member's parents or guests, in accordance with this Code of Conduct:

- **No Discrimination:** All participants, parents & guests of SFM are to treat all other participants, parents, guests & coaches at all times and in all respects in a manner free of discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, religion, gender or sexual orientation, age or other.
- **Physical Safety:** Physical safety is one of the highest priorities of SFM. All participants are expected to exercise control of their actions and demeanor while fencing or otherwise participating at the club. All participants are expected to exercise good judgment as to the degree of force used in fencing, which must be appropriate to the age, size and experience level of their opponents.
- **Sportsmanship:** Good sportsmanship is another of the club's highest priorities. All fencing is to be conducted in a respectful and courteous manner regardless of whether it takes place during open bouts, at a competition or during a class. All participants are expected to exercise proper fencing etiquette; this includes saluting the opponent and the referee before and after each bout, and to shake hands with the opponent after each bout, in a sportsmanlike manner. Anything unacceptable on piste at a competition is not acceptable here.
- **Equipment:** All participants are expected to keep any equipment owned by them in a safe condition, and are responsible for the suitability and condition of that equipment.

All participants using club equipment are expected to handle the equipment with care, as it is indispensable to a number of participants. Also do not use any equipment that appears damaged or unsafe and to give any such equipment to an Armourer or Coach.

All experienced fencers or participants continuing beyond introductory classes are expected to purchase their own equipment.
- **Club Activities:** All non-involved participants, parents or guests must treat classes and programs at the club with respect. Participants, parents & guests must not interrupt or disrupt any activity at the club or its coaches. They are expected to follow the same code of conduct. Participants must follow club rules.
- **Competition Conduct:** Members attending competitions represent SFM to the wider fencing community. Members are bound by these Rules regardless of whether it is a local, regional, national or international competition. Any person representing SFM who breaches these rules will be subject to disciplinary action by the club's Head Coach.
- **Ejection:** If at any time a participant or guest threatens the safety of the other participants, guests, or coaches, any member of the club's coaching staff may immediately remove the threatening participant or guest from the premises. The Head Coach will promptly determine the duration that such removal will remain in effect and any other penalties.
- **REVOCATION OF PRIVILEGES.** THE HEAD COACH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REVOKE THE MEMBERSHIP OR PRIVILEGES OF ANY PERSON WHO HAS VIOLATED ANY OF THESE RULES.

I have read these rules, and I will comply with them:

Member's Name (Print): _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent's or Legal Guardian's Signature: _____ Date: _____

(A parent or legal guardian must sign for students under the age of 18.)

SPORT FENCING MARKHAM – CLUB RULES:

- Use proper fencing etiquette always
- Violent or unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated
- Use proper care of electric equipment (esp. walk back to reel to release wire)
- No fencing without instructor present/permission
- Safety equipment is always required when fencing
- Always hold weapon by the tip when not fencing, or point to the floor (do not drag tip on floor); Never raise your tip to anyone
- Do not turn your back on your opponent when fencing
- Proper attire always required (includes long pants)
- Report all injuries or equipment problems to your instructor
- Always be aware of your surroundings and watch for others
- Return all club equipment neatly after practise
- No water bottles left in the gym
- No food in the gym
- No boots or outdoor shoes in gym