

To the Point

Your monthly guide to Fencing in Great Britain

Issue 07 June 2010

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If you have any suggestions to improve *To the Point* please do not hesitate to contact us [here](#)

Coach Development News

Coach Tutor Conference

Coach tutors from the majority of the EF regions attended the Coach Tutor Conference held on 10th & 11th June in Nottingham. The aim of the conference was to provide an opportunity to discuss the future of coach education and development.

The topics up for discussion included:

- Current successes and challenges in coach development
- Current context and latest initiatives in state school fencing
- The role of the lead tutor
- The role of the National Academy
- Current coach tutor support and future requirements
- New terms, conditions and development processes for coach tutors

The conference included briefings on current initiatives and plenty of discussion and debate in a plenary session. The atmosphere throughout was open, with a clear desire by the group to work together to enhance the effectiveness of the coach education. Feedback from participants at the conference was uniformly positive. The chance to work with other coach tutors to discuss and exchange ideas was seen as being the most successful elements of the event.

The intention is that key issues from the debate will be set into a formalised process for administering coach development programmes.

Certificate of Tutoring in Sport

Ten delegates gathered in Nottingham on 25th June for a three-day introductory programme for the award of the Certificate of Tutoring in Sport (CTS). An Introduction to Assessment Practice in Sport (IAPS) was also available to delegates at the event. The selectees for this training were a mix of coaches and workforce trainers (Armoury and Refereeing). The CTS and IAPS qualification is the nationally recognised standard for coach education. The group were selected to attend because it was felt that they would be the coach tutors of the future. British Fencing's lead tutors will be instrumental in assisting the delegates to complete their programme by observing them co-tutor on courses.

Norman Randall

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Fast Track Level 1 Foil and Epee Coaching Course

British Fencing are running a [Fast Track Level 1 Foil and Epee Coaching Course in Newcastle on 31st July-1st August 2010.](#)

If you wish to enroll please contact us [here](#) or call BF on 0208 742 3032

Disabled Fencing News

Clubs and coaches

We have had a fantastic response from clubs and coaches wishing to become more involved in wheelchair fencing.

35 clubs completed the questionnaire we sent out and we are currently going through all the replies. If your fencing club is in one of the following counties: Bucks, Berks, Hants, Oxon, Herts, Beds and Essex, and you think your club could help, we would love to hear from you! Please get in touch [here](#).

The coaching workshop held earlier this month at Worcester was full well before the closing date. Many more coaches wanted to come along and we have a list getting longer each week of coaches wishing to come to the next workshop.

The Nationals

For the first time ever, our nationals will be held alongside the British Championships at Sheffield. Should you have any wheelchair fencers (juniors and seniors) at your club, please make sure they have entered. We are striving for a large number of entries this year.

If you happen to be there and wish to find out more about wheelchair fencing or are just a little bit curious, please come and have a look and a chat. It will certainly get you thinking about how the sport of fencing can be adapted both technically and tactically so that everyone can enjoy it and still compete to a very high level.

Domestic Competition

Chichester Fencing Club has successfully integrated a wheelchair fencing event into its 2nd Chichester Open. Following the great response we have had from clubs who wish to introduce a similar initiative, we hope that a larger domestic

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Schools Fencing – Change4Life

Whilst we await final details of the Change4Life School Sport Club initiative, some useful preparatory work has been undertaken and we shall be ready to hit the ground running when we get the go-ahead. A two-day training design forum was held on 1st and 2nd June to analyse and outline the necessary training for the project. We appointed a training designer to write 40 lesson plans and prepare a compendium of fencing-related games and exercises, and a promotional video was shot in an East London school.

Schools opting to start up a fencing club next September are champing at the bit and have begun making enquiries of their existing fencing contacts or sourcing local coaches. If you are an SSCo, PDM, coach or club, here's what you need to know:

- Any and all training will commence in September for Sept and Oct start-ups, and in Nov/Dec for Jan 11 start-ups...
- We will group SSPs together for training courses so no one has to travel too far (we are trying to keep to 45 minutes drive time)...
- We'll be concentrating on the soft form of the game using simple plastic masks and plastic foils...
- There will be a fully supported training programme for teachers/leaders, with text-based and DVD-based resources including 40 session plans and a games compendium, as well as live practical training.
- We can advise schools on the best way to allocate funds from their start-up grants to properly resource the fencing club.

Norman Randall

calendar will be possible in 2011. Is this something you feel your club could do too? If so [contact us](#).

European Championships

We very much hope the Wheelchair Fencing European Championships will be staged in Sheffield in 2011. Bringing this event to the UK is a great opportunity for all fencers and coaches to see and get a feel for world standards. Viv Mills recently won a bronze medal at the Montreal World Cup (women's foil) and Viv together with other GB fencers will be training hard for a chance to compete for Britain on home soil.

General enquiries

To find out more, please contact [Dawn Newbery](#) on 07787 944042.

Adverts

Do you want to place an advert in the British Fencing Newsletter?

Want to recruit a volunteer or a coach? Or promote an event?

If you wish to place an advert in *To the Point* please contact us [here](#)

North East Development News

Teaching the teachers to teach – mini-fencing.

Since the Regional Development programme in the North East started in 2008, requests for fencing in schools have grown by over 300%. An encouraging reason for this is through the popularity of mini-fencing with fun training and coach development activities taking place across the region.

In a recent Mini-fence for Teachers course that took place in Blyth Valley near Newcastle, 12 sports coaches took part and are now delivering in the local area in schools and community centres. This one-day nationally recognised course is not only setting standards for delivery of the plastic version of fencing but is also enabling those new to fencing

to be able to deliver up to 10 weeks of session plans.

The relatively quick training, confidence and enjoyment elements of the course have proved so popular, that the coaches are now starting to enrol on the Level 1 BF and EF courses so they can graduate to the metal version.

A total of 45 mini-fencing coaches have so far completed the course in the region, with many delivering in schools, universities, community clubs and sports centres. The next course is being held at Hartlepool on the 6th July. Please contact Beth Davidson, North East Regional Development Officer. Beth.davidson@northumbria.ac.uk

Beth Davidson

England Fencing News

Applications are invited from clubs, counties and regions for grants to support projects that will develop fencing. Grants up to a maximum of £300 each will be awarded subject to available funds. (For projects requiring a larger grant, consider [Sport England Small Grants](#))

Applications for grants for projects which measurably enhance the links between a local school or School Sport Partnership and a region, county union or club, and/or applications for grants for projects which are directly concerned with coach development, will receive priority. All clubs or coaches benefiting from the grant must be members of England Fencing.

Grants will be decided by an awards panel comprising three members of the England Fencing Executive Board. Applications will be considered in 3-monthly rounds while funds allow.

The deadline for the first funding round will be 16th July 2010.

To apply, download and complete the Development Grant Application Form [here](#).

Ray Stafford

Website Links

Having trouble finding what you want on the new website?

Please follow the links below if you are looking for information on:

- [Coaching Courses](#)
- [Rules and Regulations](#)
- [Fencing Equipment Suppliers](#)
- [Insurance](#)
- [Committees](#)
- [Welfare](#)
- [ClubMark](#)
- [Club Listings](#)
- [New Membership](#)
- [FIE License](#)
- [Refereeing](#)
- [Competition Entry](#)

Otherwise, please use the website's online [search](#) engine if you cannot find what you are looking for.

Academy News

The plans for the start of the National Academy programme are in place and we're delighted to welcome the staff who will be working with the talent development and coach education group for the camp at Nottingham Trent University in August. Details and latest information can always be found [here](#)

[Lead fencing coach](#) – Linda Strachan

[Epee coaches](#) – Peter Barrett, Sue Benney, Jamie Miller

[Foil coaches](#) – Pierre Harper, Glen Golding, Steven Davey, Andy Martin

[Sabre coaches](#) – Ian Williams, James Williams, Neil Hutchison

[Lead sports science support & physiotherapist](#) - Saskia Blair

[Lead strength & conditioning coach](#) – Anthony Turner

[Assistant strength & conditioning coach](#) – Ben Richens

[Student strength & conditioning coach](#) – TBC, TBC

[Sports Psychologist](#) – Jonathan Katz

[Physiotherapist](#) – Marsha Evans

[Medical & 100%ME tutor](#) – Clare Halsted

[Athlete lifestyle lead](#) – Jennifer Bennett

[Armourers](#) – Andy Goodier, Steve Hyman

[Logistics & team managers](#) – Sarah Dunsbee

[Team Managers](#) – Lorraine Rose, Gillian Aghajan, Marie-Pauline Mackinnon, Katie Dolan, Eileen Buist, Maggie Maynard, Alex Brentnall, Jonathan Rhodes, David Craig, Jim Thornton

[Athlete & Official Education](#) – Jack Boteler

[Referee tutors](#) – Lynne Melia, Mike Thornton, Murray Morrison

[Coach education Manager](#) – Norman Randall

[Lead coach education tutor](#) – David Kirby

[Coach education tutors](#) – Steve Paul, Priscille Lapoutge, Bela Pakey, Nick Charles, John Clegg, Charlotte Murphy, Graham Stretton

[Athlete role models](#) – Neil Hutchison, Richard Kruse, Laurence Halsted, Jon Willis

[Performance fencing coach consultant](#) – Ziemek Wojciechowski

[Oversight group](#) – Piers Martin, Ben Campion, Maggie Lloyd-Jones

[Performance consultant](#) – Alan Rapley

[Administration support](#) – Anika Ved, Charlie Miller

Limited spaces will be openly available for armoury, referee and team manager training as part of the camp.

Neil Brown

Sainsbury's UK School Games News

Tickets are now on sale [here](#) and all the competitors will have two free tickets for friends or family. The fencing event is taking place in Sunderland Tennis Centre. The opening and closing ceremonies are in Gateshead stadium.

World Class News

The International Committee has approved the following selection for the 2010 European Championships.

[Men's Epee \(Individual\)](#)

Tom Bennett

Nick Perry

Jon Willis [More...](#)

Events

Course Name	Date
Bill Hoskyns Open	3 July
NVA West Midlands Open	3 July
Manchester Open	10 July
Much Wenlock Open	11 July
Cambridge Open Air	11 July
Norfolk Open	17 July
GB Individual National Championships	24 July
GB Teams National Championships	25 July
South of Ireland Open	28 July
National Academy	16-21 Aug
UK School Games	2 Sept
Essex Open	4 Sept
Hamlet Open	11 Sept
BSC London Foil	11 Sept
NVA Winton	11 Sept
Manchester Cadet Tournament	18 Sept
Bristol Open	18 Sept
Shropshire Open	25 Sept

Courses

Course	Date
First Aid and SPC	31 Jul
L1 Fast Track Foil, N'castle	31 Jul-1 Aug
L1 & 2 Foil and Epee, N. London	2-6 Aug
L1 & 2 Foil, Epee & Sabre, SE. London	25-29 Oct

British Fencing