

To the Point

Your monthly guide to Fencing in Great Britain
Issue 02 January 2010

Latest News from British Fencing

First of all, I would like to wish all those in the fencing community a very happy and successful New Year from all of us at British Fencing headquarters.

I would like to thank all those who have commented on the initial *To The Point*. We hope that you will continue to support us and offer your opinions on the content, structure and technical aspects of the Newsletter as we develop it. Your views are very much appreciated. Please see the footer of this newsletter for details of how to provide feedback.

As we ease into 2010 there are a number of exciting events and opportunities for you to get involved in. The athlete development and coach education elements of the National Academy Programme start in February and March, culminating in August.

I am particularly excited about the content of the programme which will offer both athletes and coaches an opportunity to develop a complete approach to their personal development. We will be looking at both areas in the widest sense bringing in specialist sport science support, strength and conditioning, sports psychologists and many other experts to support the development of both our coaches and our fencers.

Through the Academy, we will also be running a club development element which will cover all aspects of running a successful club, including referee development, team manager training and other appropriate briefings.

On the 21st of March we are running a conference on many aspects of fencing, imaginatively entitled British and England Fencing Coach, Club and Volunteer Organiser Conference and Training Event. It should be a fantastic day for updating and developing your fencing knowledge and meeting like-minded individuals.

I will look forward to meeting many of you at these events in the near future.

Ben Campion
National Development Manager

LEVEL 1 AND 2 FOIL AND EPEE COACHING COURSE

British Fencing are running a level 1 and 2 coaching course in Foil and Epee in North London from Monday 15th to Saturday 20th February. There are a limited number places left so please contact us at British Fencing (0208 742 3032) to enroll now. For more information on this course [click here](#).

International News

[European Cadet Championships – Athens March 2010](#)

The team of 24 fencers has now been selected for this event. Best wishes & congratulations for the hard work these fencers & their coaches have done to qualify.

The team

M Foil	ARCHER	Kristjan
M Foil	CHERITON	Kareem
M Foil	SAVIN	Alex
M Foil	TOFALIDES	Alex
M Epee	FREWIN	James
M Epee	HUDSON	Jack
M Epee	LITTLER	Joe
M Epee	MARSH	Philip
M Sabre	AIYENURO	Soji
M Sabre	BOTELER	Harry
M Sabre	LAWRENCE	Chris
M Sabre	WALKER	Henry
W Foil	CLARKE	Ruth
W Foil	KING	Leah
W Foil	KUBLER	Ife
W Foil	SUDDERICK	Phoebe
W Epee	BARRINGTON	Georgina
W Epee	CHANG	Caitlin
W Epee	DENHAM	Toni
W Epee	RADFORD	Amy
W Sabre	JONES	Libby
W Sabre	LILLYCROP	Megan
W Sabre	MAIDWELL-SMITH	Alice
W Sabre	RIDGEON	Verity

Neil Brown

In this issue

World Class Programme News
Upcoming Events and Courses
Academy News
South West News
and more....

Academy News

We are pleased to report that Linda Strachan has been appointed as the Lead Coach for the talent development element of the 2010 National Academy sessions in February, March & August.

The list of fencers who have been invited to the first training day on the 20th February is now available on the British Fencing website at <http://www.bfb.org.uk/S30A00>. These pages also show the selection list for the next training day on the 20th March.

Applications are sought from fencers who are born 1994-96 who feel they would like to be considered for selection to the National Academy training camp in August; these fencers should attend the training & selection day on the 20th March. For application forms please [click here](#).

Neil Brown

South West News

British Fencing are in discussions with Filton College, Bristol, about planning a very exciting project whereby Filton will have a full-time fencing coach & a new fencing salle, for September 2010. This will be done by using the Advanced Apprenticeship in Sporting Excellence (a 2-year Level 3 qualification that can be done in conjunction with A-levels or vocational qualifications) at the college. Details of the AASE programme are at <http://www.skillsactive.com/training/apprenticeships/aase>

Fencing will then become part of the Bristol Academy of Sport at Filton. Details of Filton's existing activities with 10 sports are at <http://www.filton.ac.uk/baos/>

Applications will be sought from fencers who want to take advantage of this offer soon. In order to be eligible fencers must be aged 16-18 as at 31st August 2010, (born between 31/8/94 and 1/9/91) & willing to enrol on this 2-year course at Filton College in Bristol. There will be some financial & practical assistance available to any fencers who live more than an hour away from the College.

More details & full application details in due course.

Neil Brown

Classifications

Referees Wanted

Volunteers, especially referees, are required for the British Youth Championships (1/2/3 May) in Sheffield and the London Youth Games (13 June) in Redbridge. Please contact [Jack Boteler](#) for more details

Piste Assistants Wanted

Volunteer Piste Assistants required at England Cup (30th/31st January) contact [Jack Boteler](#) for more details.

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

World Class Programme News

With the season fast approaching, December provided the ideal opportunity to bring together all World Class Performance Programme (WCPP) and TASS athletes for a five-day training camp in Grantham. James Williams, ably assisted by a team of coaches, led the 50-plus athletes through an intense programme of fencing, strength and conditioning, sports psychology and key sports science assessment. Feedback from the camp has been very positive and our thanks should go to James for running such a smooth operation.

The work in Grantham, and at subsequent men's foil training camps in Bath, a women's epee camp in Ukraine and individual overseas training trips, has paid off as the 2010 season has started with

some positive results. In men's foil, Richard Kruse triumphed in the first World Cup event of the year in Copenhagen, enjoying remarkable wins over a strong field, beating Poland's Glonek in the final. Strong L32 and L64 finishes from Marcus Mepstead and Ben Peggs are also very promising. In the first women's epee Grand Prix event of 2010 in Budapest, Corinna Lawrence had a tremendous start to her season, finishing 14th. This result was backed up by a commendable L64 by Mary Cohen and a L16 result from the team. Jon Willis also kicked off his season in style by winning the first World Cup of the men's epee season in Kish Island, Iran. Well done to all for these promising results.

Cat Paterson

Scotland Fencing News

Scotland Fencing will host a Gala Men's Foil team match against England on Saturday 27th March. The event, at Fernie Castle near Cupar will also include a dinner in the evening. The teams will be Richard Kruse, Keith Cook and Ed Jefferies for Scotland with Laurence Halsted, Ahmed Rosowsky and Jamie Kenber for

Coach Development News

Since May 2009 a group of senior Coach Educators have been preparing to be 'Lead Tutors' in order to develop a quality assurance process for coach education. The role of the Lead Tutor is to assess the quality of delivery of coach education for England Fencing, thus ensuring the effectiveness of learning outcomes and experiences for those undergoing the training. This is a radical innovation for our sport and we are proud to be one of only a handful of NGBs that have developed or are developing such a system to check that our coach education is as effective as it can be. Just before Christmas the Lead Tutors met in Nottingham to discuss how they will operate this year.

An exciting item of note for coach education is the prospect of the National Academy coach education programme. You will have read about the National Academy initiative elsewhere in this newsletter. The coach training part of the National Academy will involve up to 30 (10 at each weapon) selected Level 2 and Level 3 coaches who wish to work towards their next coach award level at their chosen weapon. The six-month programme will be a mix of formal theory and practical sessions and guided study and practice, culminating in an assessment for those who feel ready to present themselves for examination. A residential phase coincident with the National Academy training camp will include learning about a range of sports science and non-specific coaching topics, as well as covering the technical elements of the Level 3 and Level 4 syllabus under the guidance of experienced and expert Coach Educators. If you want to know more about this exciting coach development opportunity, please contact [Norman Randall](#). The induction day will take place in Stratford-upon-Avon on Saturday 20 February. This part of the year is a very busy one for training

England so it should be good fun.

The event is being held to raise funds for the Scottish Fencing team travelling to the Commonwealth Championships in Melbourne this year. For more information and bookings, please contact us at www.fencingevent.com.

Chris Hyde

staff in Leisure centres, Holiday activity centres and youth organisations to lead fencing taster sessions. Tutors have been allocated to deliver two-day courses in North Wales, Devon, Sussex, North Yorks and all points between.

Schools News

The popularity of fencing in the State education sector continues to grow apace and coaches have been busy delivering programmes for fencers, school teachers and Junior Sports Leaders in our pilot areas (London, NE, EM, S, SE and WM). A call has gone out for more qualified coaches to deliver teacher training, since we are keen to increase capacity by enlisting the help of teachers and Sports Leaders in schools to deliver mini-fencing programmes. Teacher training has been or will be delivered in North London, Tower Hamlets, Hampshire, Durham, and Mansfield in the next couple of months.

Another Mini-Fencing Tournament was held this month (for the Ellis Guilford SSP in inner-city Nottingham) involving 8 teams from 4 schools. There was plenty of support from teachers and parents and this was an excellent showcase for fencing in general and for the systems devised by the Framework working group in particular.

The National Framework working group will reconvene during February half-term to learn about all the latest initiatives from the Youth Sport Trust.

Norman Randall

Events

See below for upcoming Events and Courses.

Event	Date
England Trophy –WS A-Grade	30-31 Jan
Plymouth Open	30 Jan
Lancs Schools FE & S	31 Jan
GLL Camden Cadet Sabre	6 Feb
Slough Open – 6W	6 Feb
LPJS Sherwood Foil	13 Feb
Merseyside Open – 6W	20 Feb
Hants Open- M&WF,M&WS	20 Feb
Elite Epee Junior Series R3	20 Feb
Oxfam Open – 6W	27 Feb
LPJS Ashton Epee	27 Feb
Lancaster Team Challenge	27 Feb
LPJS Ashton Foil	28 Feb

Course Name	Date
Competition Administration	25 Jan
Armoury	30 Jan
Team Manager Training	30 Jan
Level 1 & 2 Foil and Epee	15-19 Feb
Academy Selection	20 Feb
Academy Coach Education	21 Feb
First Aid, Safe Guarding & Protecting	20 Feb
Academy Selection	20-21 Mar
Academy Coach Education	20 Mar
Coaching Conference	21 Mar
Refereeing	25 Apr
Armoury	25 Apr
Piste Assistant	25 Apr
Competition Administration	25 Apr

The events forum originally planned is now in conjunction with the coaching conference on 21st March.

Anika Ved

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