



Huntingdonshire Fencing Club

Club Officers:	Chairman	Geoff Browne	01480 474152
	Secretary	Ivan Ward	01480 380804
	Treasurer	Mike Ellis	01480 217216
	Captain	Chris Convine	01480 495292
	Armourer	Ian Coates	01480 461749
	Public Relations	Tracey Coates	01480 461749
	Coach (B.A.F. qualified)	Mike Ellis	01480 217216
	Welfare Officers	Lizzie & Dan Tozer	01733 340741

Huntingdonshire Fencing Club Child and Vulnerable Person Protection Policy

In the document below, junior refers to fencers under the age of 18 and those who are defined as vulnerable people in child protection legislation. Fencers are defined as those who have been accepted by a member of the committee as fencers for the club night/event in question. Parents are defined as parents/guardians who have legal responsibility for the junior fencer.

1) Access to the St. Neots Recreation centre

The St. Neots Recreation centre is a public building and as such we have no control over other users of the centre. The club area of the hall is open access; however fencers will observe who is in the area.

In general, junior and adult fencers are free to mix throughout the evening as the one room layout minimises the opportunity for inappropriate behaviour. There are several areas that require special attention as described below.

- a) **Arrival.** Club responsibility for juniors starts when they enter the hall at or after 7 pm, all fencers are expected to sign in for fire regulations. If juniors are dropped off outside the centre, the club cannot take any responsibility for them until they have entered the hall after 7 pm and have signed in. It is the club's preference that parents come in to the hall and sign their child in.
- b) **Getting equipment out of the store room.** Club equipment is stored in the centre store room, if juniors help get this out there must always be at least two adults in the store room at any one time.
- c) **Leaving the hall during the evening.** If juniors leave the hall during the evening the club will not take responsibility for them, however they can request that two adult fencers/responsible adults accompany them.
- d) **Leaving the centre at the end of the evening.** The fencers are required to sign out to signify that they have left the building. As for sections a) and c) the club does not take responsibility for juniors who have signed out and left the hall. Parents are requested to come in to meet their children if they do not agree with this clause. It is the club's preference that all parents come into the hall to collect their child and sign them out.

2) Club Coaches and officers

- a) **Club Coaches.** In keeping with BFA/BAF regulations, all coaches who coach juniors are on the BFA/BAF current register of coaches and have a minimum of the Level 1 Coaching Award and have complied with BFA/BAF CRB requirements. All current coaches have attended a 'Good Practice and Child Protection' Sports Coach UK.
- b) **Club Officers.** Although it is not a requirement of the BFA, all club officers are encouraged to go through a CRB check every 5 years and this is required of the Child Welfare Protection Officers. The club may accept CRB certificates from other organisations as long as they are less than 2 years old.

3) Other Fencers

Fencers are not expected to be CRB checked, however they are expected to be familiar with this policy and abide by its requirements.

4) Other club events.

From time to time the club holds social events where the junior fencers may come into contact with people from outside the club. The club will always make it clear when this will occur and take all reasonable precautions to minimise risk. If parents have any specific concerns they should raise them with a club officer.

5) Special needs.

The club is not specifically equipped to deal with fencers who have special needs, however the club will work with parents and fencers to maximise opportunities for those with special needs. We will consider each case individually, with consideration to our resources and to safety and welfare.

6) Incident procedure.

The club has two welfare officers (1 male, 1 female) who should be the first club contact for fencers or their parents in the case of a problem. The club will then work alongside relevant authorities in identifying the correct course of action. If the welfare officers are unavailable then any club officer can be approached.

7) Photography.

The club will comply with Huntingdonshire District Council Leisure Centres Operating Procedure on photography and any BFA photographic policies.

8) Emergency contacts.

It is the responsibility of parents to keep the club informed of changes to emergency contact details.

It is assumed that all parents accept this policy and if not they should notify club officers and if necessary stay with the junior throughout the evening.