



NEWSLETTER July 2007

Hi Everyone,

The Club AGM was held on Saturday 21st July 2007. My thanks go to all who attended and to Stylographics, for the use of their boardroom.

All current officers were duly re-elected into their current positions, with the addition of Richard Summers who has kindly volunteered to assist with the maintenance of the electrical equipment.

It was agreed to prepare an inventory of the current equipment and to purchase new, as required. The purchase of another 3 weapon box was also discussed.

The decision was also made to continue to help finance various coaching courses/qualifications as appropriate. It was also decided to purchase equipment, as required, for our volunteer coaches, by way of reward for their time given to the Club.

FENCING DATES

Buccaneers:

Tuesday 4/9 – 16/10 (half term 23/10) 30/10-18/12 – 15 weeks @ £6 = £90

Tuesday 8/1/08 – 5/2/08 (half term 12/2) 19/2 – 18/3 – 11 weeks @ £6 = £66

Tuesday 8/4/08 – 20/5/08 (half term 27/5) 3/6 22/7 – 15 weeks @ £6 = £90

These dates are for both new and existing fencers.

DFC:

Thursday 6/9 – 20/12 (16 weeks)

Thursday 10/1/08 – 20/3/08 (11 weeks)

Thursday 10/4/08 – 24/7/08 (16weeks)

Dates for Starter Courses:

12/9 – 15/11

10/1 – 13/3

17/4 – 19/6

The cost of fencing throughout the year is to remain the same at £6 per session, with a 10% discount given to fencers who pay by standing order. Adult starter courses are to be priced at £65 for the ten week course.

The starter courses will no longer automatically include BFA social membership. We would, however, like to emphasise the importance of BFA membership for insurance and also eligibility for entry into competitions.

We would also like to recommend anyone wishing to continue fencing on a regular basis, that they purchase their own equipment, and also to remind you all of the clothing regulations regarding fencing using the electrical equipment. (This requires an 800 newton plastron and at least 350 newton breeches).

There are several suppliers of fencing equipment some of whom offer discounts to club fencers.

We would also like to remind fencers that your equipment and insurance is your own responsibility. Anyone having any questions regarding the above please contact either myself, or any one of the coaches.

The annual dinner will be held on Thursday 3rd April 2008. The venue is yet to be decided, but please pencil this date into your diaries and come along to support the Club.

We are arranging a Club picnic to be held on 18th August. We are meeting up near the paddling pool in Cassiobury Park Watford at 2pm. Bring along your own food and drink and any friends and family that you can. The idea is that all members of the Club can get together for an afternoon and hopefully enjoy some good weather and perhaps some silly games in the park. Please try to come along and support this if you can. This is the first time that we have organised such an event, if it is successful then we can organise similar events in the future.

In general we have had a very successful year. Membership is strong and the bank balance is quite healthy. The introduction of the Buccaneers Club has produced some very good fencers and given us a base on which to build. Our senior fencers have also had some success in the county competitions. A coaches meeting has been scheduled on 31st July to discuss the revision of our current coaching structure to utilise our coaches to the maximum effect.

We have set ourselves an ambitious goal to extend and improve the facilities that the Club has to offer. We would like to acquire a high quality venue with good facilities and more space for our fencing and equipment. At present this kind of facility is not available to us, however, we should work towards this aim. Internally we can restructure the Club to extend what is currently on offer to our fencers; a move, I think, that we can address in the short term.

I feel that we are at the beginning of some exciting times at Dacorum, I would like to thank you for your support over the last year, ask you to continue to enjoy the facilities that we currently offer and support any new ventures that we will be proposing.

Chris King