



Code of Conduct

Fencing Academy of Boston is open to anyone in the general public who is interested in the sport of Olympic fencing. Upon entering the Fencing Academy of Boston, all individuals including Fencing Academy of Boston members, guests, coaches, and staff, agree to follow these rules, along with adhering to the rules of fencing as adopted by USA Fencing. Fencing Academy of Boston reserves the right to revoke membership or any privileges of any person who has been found in violation of these rules. Fencing at our club constitutes acceptance of these rules and code of conduct.

CONDUCT

- All fencers and visitors to the club are responsible for the safety and well-being of all the other fencers and visitors to the club. Be helpful, constructive, and respectful in your interactions.
- Do not criticize an opponent or minimize their fencing skills. Congratulate opponents on nice moves, skilled touches, and victories and offer encouragement and constructive advice.
- Be welcoming and inclusive to everyone.
- Bullying is not allowed anywhere at FAB. Any student, member, or visitor with interpersonal issues with another person at FAB should come speak to staff privately and work to resolve it. Do not bully, nor bully back if you are the one being harassed.
- Each fencer will salute their opponent before every bout, and salute and shake hands after every bout.
- Fencers may not shove or slam their opponent during a bout, shout or curse in anger, engage in intimidation or threats, or make overly emotional displays to indicate their displeasure at losing a point or a bout, or for any other reason. Disrespect and unsportsmanlike behavior are not allowed.
- Fencers and visitors will refrain from non-emergency interruptions of classes or lessons.
- Fencers will respond to a coach's requests promptly and respectfully. Fencers will not disrupt their class or any other class or lesson, nor take attention away from others who came for instruction and practice.
- The fencing floor is for fencing and training. If you are not fencing or training, please get out of the fencing area.
- No equipment bags, food or uncovered beverages are allowed on the fencing floor. Covered water bottles only.
- Fencers will return all borrowed equipment to its rack, hanger, or bin when not in use. Fencers will look after and store their own belongings neatly while at the club, and demonstrate courtesy toward others in shared spaces including changing rooms and restrooms.
- Fencers and other visitors should strive to be neat and courteous while visiting FAB – please clean up any trash, wipe feet, hang coats on hooks, collect your belongings, and label personal items like water bottles and uniform items, etc. so they can be returned to you.
- Arrive on time or call if you cannot make it or are going to be late.

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Code of Conduct, cont'd

SAFETY

- Safety precautions must be observed at all times. Fencing is safe when everyone takes care of themselves and each other.
- Fencing weapons are not toys, and should be respected. Do not raise a weapon above waist height unless saluting from on-guard line distance, or bouting an opponent wearing gear/mask, or in an organized/supervised exercise where fencers are not face to face. Do not demonstrate an action against a fencer who is not wearing a jacket and mask. Do not walk around with your weapon pointing out or up, or carelessly behind you, or twirl it in every direction while you are idle.
- Do not turn your back on your opponent during an action. Do not cause body contact or move the unarmed hand forward while fencing.
- Watch out for other fencers when you are walking. Do not cross fencing strips while there is fencing going on. Walk at the ends of the fencing strips and be cautious. Wait until an action is over if necessary.
- A mask, jacket, glove, pants (no shorts allowed while fencing), and shoes must always be worn when fencing. Fencers must always wear masks when weapons are raised. Fencers should wear clean, dry sneakers. No sandals, vented shoes, cleats, or slippery shoes may be worn while fencing, nor are wet or muddy shoes or boots allowed on the fencing floor.
- Violent or uncontrolled fencing actions are not permitted. Fencers must control their actions. If you feel a fencer is behaving in a dangerous or uncontrolled fashion, report it to a coach.
- Inspect your gear before and after each time you use it. Do not fence with broken equipment or blades. Do not put broken borrowed equipment back for someone else to get hurt – bring it to the attention of the coach.
- If you think a weapon, uniform, lamé, or mask is broken, stop fencing immediately to check. If something needs to be changed, be aware of your surroundings and move to another area to change if you need to.
- Stop fencing immediately if you are hurt or sick, if your opponent ceases fencing, waves the unarmed hand, or gives any sign of wanting to stop. If someone is injured, halt the action and shout out for the coach or another staff member. DO NOT RUN in an emergency until others are aware and stop fencing.
- Warm up before you begin fencing, and keep hydrated.
- Pace yourself. If you feel sick, dizzy, dehydrated, overheated, or overtired, take a break and consider whether you should continue today.