



BRITISH FENCING



ENGLAND FENCING

KENILWORTH SWORD FENCING CLUB: Fencing Risk Assessment for John Atkinson Sports Centre

Potential Hazard	Who is at risk?	Existing Control Measures	Risk Rating	Preventative Measures	Responsibilities
Muscular/Skeletal injuries (pulled muscles, broken bones etc)	Participants	People are required to participate in a warm up Ensure people are wearing appropriate sports footwear and clothing. Ensure people are using correct fencing equipment	Low	Not allow people to participate unless they warm up Not allow people to fence in incorrect footwear Ensure use of appropriate equipment	Coach
Falling/tripping/slipping	Participants	Ensure area designated for activity is free from obstacles, spillage free and well lit. Use of appropriate footwear. Report venue issues as soon as they occur. Halt session until issues are resolved.	Low	Clear area prior to starting fencing Not allow people with inappropriate footwear to participate Report any issues to Sports Centre staff	Coach
Bruising/graazes Puncture wounds	Participants	Teaching of correct hitting technique Ensure correct equipment is worn. Very, very rare but can be avoided by correct use of kit and giving broken blades to coach.	Moderate Potentially serious	All participants must be wearing appropriate equipment and know how to fence safely. As above Fencers encouraged to put on safety Personal Protective Equipment before picking up a weapon. Safety instruction forms part of all new members first session at the club regardless of their fencing experience. Safety instructions/guidance revisited regularly in training.	Participants/Coaches

Non-participants/ staff passing through fencing area	Non-participants, Participants, staff	Close hall door/ stop the session if non-participants enter the hall while fencing is in progress	Low	Close door during session. Report any issues to Sports Centre staff	Coach/ Participants
Broken/ damaged kit	Participants	ALL kit used must conform to British Fencing CEN safety standards. Broken or damaged kit is taken out of circulation and is repaired or replaced by the coach (or Armourer where appropriate)	Low	Check kit regularly Kit is washed periodically to maintain hygienic levels.	Coach
Incorrect clothing	Participants	Pupils and parents are informed prior to starting fencing at the club that they must wear appropriate sports kit, e.g., trainers, t-shirt & tracksuit trousers are a minimum requirement	Low	Pupils not wearing appropriate kit will not be allowed to fence.	Coach
Unsafe/ inappropriate behaviour	Participants/ Non-participants	All participants/ non-participants are required to follow the coach's instructions with regard to their own safety and the safety of others.	Moderate	Remind people of safety requirements and code of conduct. Warn of consequences. Exclude individuals if absolutely necessary.	Coach
Emergency & accident procedures	All	First aid available at Sports Centre/ follow onsite emergency accident procedures.	Low	Update knowledge of onsite emergency accident & procedures when appropriate	Coach & Sports Centre
Unsupervised equipment	All	Fencing equipment is always either removed from the premises or stored in a locked storage container between sessions.	Low	The code to unlock the storage containers should not be known to the sports center or to the fencers. It should only be known to the coaches and the committee.	Coach/Committee

Notes:

- a) While the sport specific risk involved in fencing may seem obvious, fencing is statistically a far safer sport than most other sports. Fencing related accidents are extremely rare and tend to occur in high level competition.
- b) Further information about the NGB's CEN safety standards, safety guidelines and safeguarding policy can be found at: www.britishfencing.com
- c) Coaching staff have insurance cover through British Fencing and The British Academy of Fencing.
- d) Kenilworth Sword Fencing Club has insurance cover through British Fencing.
- e) Coaching staff are NGB qualified (Level 5 and Level 3), 3 Weapon coaches and on the British Fencing Coaches Register. Current DBS checks and safeguarding training are mandatory for all coaches on this register.
- f) First Aid Qualified Duty Manager is on site and present at the Club venue.

Louisa Miller
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