



## Club additional safety rules during C-19 Pandemic

M. P. Toms 10<sup>th</sup> August 2020 Version 3

### **Introduction**

These rules have been compiled by the Seacourt Fencing Club Committee to comply with UK Government, Seacourt Tennis Club and British Fencing rules and guidelines in order to provide as safe as practically possible environment for the club members to take part and enjoy the sport of fencing.

All fencers attending the club senior fencing sessions on Thursday evenings are expected to comply with all these rules without exception.

Anyone not complying with these rules will not be allowed to fence and may, at the discretion of the club committee, not be invited to fence at the club again until the UK government, Seacourt Tennis Club and British Fencing declare that these additional C-19 safety rules are no longer necessary.

### **The Rules:**

1. Health checks before attending fencing and when arriving at Seacourt including consideration of existing conditions.
2. Providing contact details to allow the club to comply with government track and trace regulations.
3. Registering for a fencing session (How to register. How to cancel if not attending) Limitation on numbers, priority to regular club fencers, registration via email for available places on any fencing session. Requirement for BF membership.
4. Entering & leaving the venue
5. Management of personal equipment
6. Wearing and managing your fencing clothing
7. General conduct at the venue
  - a. Hand hygiene
  - b. Wearing of face coverings
  - c. Gathering at areas inside Seacourt other than the Sports hall or Racquets court.
  - d. Eating and drinking
  - e. Toilet facilities
8. Operation of a six person fencing nightly 'bubble'
9. Use of club electric scoring equipment
10. Use of club weapons & clothing.
11. Warming up
12. Fencing on the piste (sparring)
  - a. Wearing of mask liners / face coverings
  - b. No fleching/running
  - c. Referee
  - d. Length of bouts
13. Coaching and lessons
14. C-19 officer responsibilities and authority on the fencing night.



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### **1. Health checks before attending fencing and when arriving at Seacourt including consideration of existing conditions.**

Anyone wishing to attend a Thursday evening fencing session must complete the club health questionnaire before being allowed to attend a session and will be asked to complete and sign this questionnaire every time when arriving at the club before being allowed to fence.

Anyone who will not complete and sign this questionnaire or whose answers are not considered satisfactory by the session C-19 officer will not be allowed to fence.

Should this occur and the person has already paid for the session they will be given credit against another fencing session or the money refunded. (Format of health questionnaire see appendix A)

### **2. Providing contact details to allow the club to comply with government track and trace regulations.**

All persons attending a fencing session will be required to provide information required by the UK government track & trace system.

The information required is:

- Full name
- Contact address
- Contact telephone number(s)

### **3. Registering for a fencing session (How to register. How to cancel if not attending) Limitation on numbers, priority to regular club fencers, first come first served for available places on any fencing session. Membership of BF a requirement.**

All persons attending a fencing session will be required to register in advance with the club secretary by emailing [seacourt@southhampshirefencing.co.uk](mailto:seacourt@southhampshirefencing.co.uk) between Thursday and Tuesday 12 midnight of the preceding week. A confirmation email will be sent out on Wednesday stating whether or not you have a space on the Thursday session and specifying the bubble to which you have been allocated. The email will also have an accompanying healthcheck form which will need to be completed and handed to the check in desk on the Thursday night session. Payment should be made online in advance of the session:

Seacourt Fencing Club: SC 30 93 97      AC 01429359

Reference: Fencer's name

Anyone not registered will not be allowed to join the fencing session unless at the discretion of the session C-19 officer, if space is available due to another registered fencing being unable to attend.

If you have registered but cannot attend you must inform the Club Secretary ([seacourt@southhampshirefencing.co.uk](mailto:seacourt@southhampshirefencing.co.uk)) or the C-19 session officer as soon as possible in order that your place can be offered to another fencer.

Numbers will be limited to a maximum of 12 registered fencers in any one session.

Due to this restriction registered places will be offered on the following basis;



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- First priority to fencers who have attended the club regularly in the last 12 months.
- Second priority to fencers who have attended the club occasionally in the last 12 months.
- Third priority to fencers from other clubs in Hampshire or West Sussex.

Note there will not be any sessions, individual or group lessons for new beginners whilst these C-19 safety rules are in force. Novice fencers who were already being regularly coached prior to 25<sup>th</sup> March 2020 will be able to register to attend a session under the same rules as an experienced regular or occasional fencer.

If there is demand for than 12 places in any one session the Chairmen and Club Secretary will decide who can attend based on the above priority list and taking into account the clubs intention to make some sessions available to all fencers who have attended the club regularly in the 12 months prior to UK lockdown.

All fencers attending a session must be members of British Fencing (note 90 day free trial membership is now available).

### **4. Entering & leaving the venue**

When attending a fencing session you must comply with Seacourt Tennis Club's C-19 rules.

You must use the main reception entrance and go directly to the sports hall or racquets court depending on the six person bubble you have been registered to attend.

Immediately on arrival and before any other activity you must report to the session C-19 officer at the check in desk for health and registration checking.

At the end of the session you must leave by the specified exit and comply with all Seacourt Tennis Club social distancing rules.

### **5. Management of personal equipment**

You may only bring with you to the session your personal fencing equipment and any essential other personal possessions e.g. keys, phones etc.

As the changing rooms are not available at this time you must keep all your personal possessions together with your equipment in the part of the venue you will be fencing in.

A personal towel is permitted but must be kept with your fencing equipment and not at any time left in another part of the fencing room to which you have been assigned.

### **6. Wearing and managing your fencing clothing**

As changing facilities are not available you will need to arrive at the club wearing your basic fencing clothes i.e. T-shirt, breeches, socks. Fencing shoes, plastron, jacket, glove and mask can be put on and taken off inside the fencing room to which you have been assigned.



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Please ensure that during the fencing session you keep your personal fencing equipment in one place in your assigned fencing room that is separated by 2m from the equipment of the other fencers in your 'bubble' (see rule 9)

### **7. General conduct at the venue**

During the fencing session and whilst in the venue you must comply with Seacourt Tennis Club's general rules of conduct and any special rules in place for prevention of transmission of C-19 Virus.

Any fencer found deliberately not complying with these rules or the spirit of these rules in unforeseen situations where compliance becomes impossible, will not be invited to register for any further fencing sessions until Club and Government C-19 special safety restrictions are lifted.

#### **a. Hand hygiene**

The fencing club will provide hand sanitiser and disposable towel in both areas to be used for fencing.

These must be used on entering and leaving your assigned fencing area and before handling any club equipment (see rule 10). Paper towel must be immediately disposed of after use.

#### **b. Wearing of face coverings & social distancing**

In accordance with government guidelines you must make every reasonable effort, whilst not fencing, to maintain 2 metre social distance from all other fencers, or any non-fencers whom you may come into contact with, whilst in the venue.

Face coverings should be worn according to the venue's guidelines.

Use of mask liners worn while fencing is encouraged.

#### **c. Gathering at areas inside Seacourt other than the sports hall or the racquets court.**

Gathering in areas inside Seacourt outside your assigned fencing hall is not permitted and will be treated as an infringement of the conduct rule (Rule 7)

#### **d. Eating and drinking**

Food and drink are not currently available from Seacourt Tennis Club but you may bring items for your own consumption with you to the fencing session. These must not be shared with other fencers.

#### **e. Toilet facilities**

The toilets in the main changing rooms are not available but you may use the toilets attached to the bar area in accordance with Seacourt Tennis Club rules.

### **8. Operation of a six person fencing nightly 'bubble'**

In accordance with British Fencing guidelines we will operate fencing 'bubbles'. Each bubble can consist of up to a maximum of 6 fencers & non-fencers.

Each bubble will be assigned to either the sports hall or racquets court.



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Two bubbles may share a hall/court provided the total number of fencers in each bubble does not exceed 6.

Fencers cannot move between bubbles within a session and social distancing must be maintained within the group where at all possible.

Fencers will be assigned to their bubble via their confirmation email sent on Wednesday for the Thursday evening session.

### **9. Use of club electric scoring equipment**

Each fencing bubble may use up to two sets of club electric scoring equipment.

The equipment for your 'bubble' should be set up and taken down by one or two members of your bubble who must sanitise their hands before setting up and after putting away the equipment.

Fencers must attach & detach themselves to/from the spools and sanitise their hands before doing so.

If using remote controls for scoring, then the referee must sanitise their hands before and after using the remote control.

The equipment must be cleaned with the spray provided before and after use.

### **10. Use of club weapons & clothing.**

The loan of club weapons and clothing is not encouraged whilst these special C-19 safety rules are in place.

If, due to any unforeseen circumstances, a fencer needs temporary loan of any club equipment to use during session, then they must take responsibility for that equipment for the duration of C-19 safety rules.

The loan of the equipment will be entered in the kit record book and the fencer must take the kit home and must ensure that it has been properly disinfected before returning it to the club kit storage area.

### **11. Warming up**

Footwork/warm-up exercises must respect social distancing and should not be performed face to face.

### **12. Fencing on the piste (sparring)**

Hand shaking at the end of the bout is suspended and replaced with a salute to be performed at 2m.

Corps a corps, deliberate close quarter actions and any actions that breach the 1m distancing are not permitted.

Fleching and running attacks are not permitted.



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Fencers should wear a face covering or a mask liner during fencing and while refereeing. Hand signals should be used where possible to replace verbal signals.

When refereeing the referee should aim to maintain at least 1m separation from the fencers at all times.

It is recommended that the length of bouts is limited to 1x15 or 3x5 hits up to a maximum of 10 minutes of fencing time or 15 minutes of elapsed time.

### **13. Coaching and lessons**

Coaches can deliver a maximum of 15 minutes lesson to one individual during a club session and only within one bubble.

Face coverings can be worn during low intensity training lessons instead of mask liners but care must be taken to monitor breathing and heart rates and participants should take regular breaks.

### **14. C-19 officer responsibilities and authority on the fencing night.**

The club will nominate a member of the committee to act as C-19 officer during each fencing session and post their name on the club notice board.

The C-19 officer will:

1. Ensure that only registered fencers attend the session
2. All fencers complete the nightly health questionnaire satisfactorily before entering the fencing areas.
3. All fencers comply with Seacourt Tennis and Seacourt Fencing Club's special C-19 rules

The C-19 officer is authorised by the club committee to refuse entry or ask any fencer to leave the session if s/he does not comply with these rules.

Approved on behalf of Seacourt Fencing Club Committee by:

Name: Martin Toms

Position: Chairman Seacourt Fencing club.

Dated 10/8/20