

GWENT SWORD CLUB

news

April 2010

Funding 1

With the aid of Newport City Council's disabled sport development officer, the club has secured funding of £1,451 for a wheelchair fencing frame. The club is buying a static chair to go with the frame so able-bodied fencers can fence with wheelchair fencers. This will make Gwent Sword Club the only club in the area which can offer this facility

Funding 2

Newport's Community Chest panel has agreed funding of £836 towards armoury supplies and first-aid training. I will soon be offering brief maintenance and basic armoury seminars within club sessions for anyone wanting to learn how to maintain their equipment and undertake basic repairs. In addition, I am looking for a volunteer / volunteers to become a first-aider - someone who regularly attends club sessions, preferably (but not necessarily) at both Newport and Chepstow.

Top ref!

Congratulations to Lynne Melia, who has been selected to referee at the senior European Championships in Leipzig in July.

Never too old...

Further congratulations to Catherine Fisher, who is representing Wales in the Veterans' Five Nations competition in Edinburgh.

Winton Cup

Gwent Sword Club had four representatives in this season's Winton Cup regional competition: George Orchard and James Wood-Fisher in the Welsh men's foil team; Abi Difford in the Welsh women's foil team and Rhys Melia in the West Midlands men's foil team. Wales won the cup for a second year; Abi's team won the women's foil weapon title and Rhys' team the men's foil weapon title.

Beginners

As you may have noticed on the website, space considerations mean that beginners' classes in Newport have been temporarily suspended despite there being a considerable waiting list, although they are continuing as normal in Chepstow. If this continues, the situation will be reviewed at this summer's annual meeting.

Welsh closed team competitions

Catherine Fisher is gathering names for next month's Welsh closed team epee and foil competitions. Although competitive, the standard is wide-ranging at these competitions, so please join in if you can - we will enter as many teams as possible (over-13s only). The new bib-target rule applies to the foil event.

Results

Recent competition results include:

Nottingham Open: George Orchard 15th men's foil; Olivia Orchard 6th women's foil.

O'Sullivan Cup (epee): 10th Catherine Fisher, 14th Mike Edwards.

Welsh Youth Foil: Daniel Baston (5th U12 boys); Henry Orchard (2nd U14 boys), Hugh Kocan (8th U14 boys); Duncan Edwards (=3rd U16 boys), Jordan Thomas (=3rd U16 boys); George Orchard (1st U18 boys), James Phillips (7th U18 boys).

Welsh Closed Epee: 18th Mike Edwards, 21st Justin Pocknell.

Welsh Closed Foil: men: 9th Mike Kocan, 12th Justin Pocknell, 13th Mike Edwards; women: 1st: Abi Difford.

National senior rankings

Men's foil: 5, Rhys Melia; 61, George Orchard; 89, James Wood-Fisher; 171, Ceri Richards; 245, Adam Hall; 461, Adam Deacon.

Women's foil: 28, Olivia Orchard; 32, Abi Difford.

Women's epee: 106, Olivia Orchard.

Forthcoming competitions

May 8: Leon Paul Junior Series Wrexham Foil (U9, U11, U13, U15) - see details on Welsh Fencing website www.welshfencing.org

May 16: Welsh Closed Team Epee, Cardiff - see above

May 23: Welsh Closed Team Foil, Cardiff - see above. Please note that we are organising this competition and any help refereeing, etc, on the day will be welcomed. New bib rules DO apply to this competition.

June 5/6: LPJS Portsmouth & Southsea Foil (U9, U11, U13, U15) - follow links on www.britishfencing.com

June 12/13: Wrexham Open. Mid-quality competition.

June 19/20: London Open. New competition, but prize fund means standard likely to be fairly high.

Club membership

Please note that the cost of Gwent Sword Club sessions is £5 per night (£4 concessions) unless you have a valid club membership card. To obtain or renew club membership - costing £20 per year (£15 concessions) - and get the reduced rate of £4 (£3) per session, please see the secretary or treasurer.

Carl Difford, secretary

01633 855751

Secretary@gwentwordclub.co.uk

www.gwentwordclub.co.uk