

DECEMBER 1, 2015

# COLUMBIA FENCERS' CLUB NEWSLETTER

## Greetings CFC Fencers and Friends!

*Hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving!  
Wishing you, your family, and friends good Health,  
much Joy, and special times together during the Holidays  
and in the New Year !*

*Welcome Cooper!*

*Clubmates—  
Please introduce  
yourself to anyone  
you do not know!*

***The YMCA is closed Thursday evenings, Dec 24 and Dec 31. December has five (5) fencing Tuesdays and 3 fencing Thursdays. Thursday-only fencers may come on a Tuesday in December to make up the missed week!***

**The SC “Junior Olympic” Qualifier is at Harbison Recreation Center Sat. Dec 19. Spectators are admitted free.**

Unfortunately, it appears that several events will be cancelled owing to low registration. (Events with fewer than 4 competitors entered are cancelled, and those entered will be deemed to have qualified from SC.) **Last chance to register for JO's at the late fee is Friday, Dec. 4. All competitors must pre-register.** Event times will be posted after Dec. 4. Additional information is at [https://askfred.net/Events/moreInfo.php?tournament\\_id=31737](https://askfred.net/Events/moreInfo.php?tournament_id=31737) . Even if you do not plan to attend JO's in Cleveland in February, this is an excellent local event to fence or to come and watch. Please be sure your electric gear is in working order. **Spectators are welcome.**



**Thank you—**

Brent and Bernadette for your help with our November 4th “Knights of the Round Table” demonstration at the Cayce-West Columbia Branch Library. Perhaps we'll have some new fencers excited to try the modern sport.



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**Lightly used equipment for sale. Contact Jane to link with sellers or if you have gear to sell.**

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**CFC Plans for the future**— Input from our YMCA and Harbison fencers is needed for future scheduling of our classes to help me assess what's most convenient for you. CFC has met at several different locations throughout our 30+ year history. The Downtown YMCA has been sold, and they are building a new smaller facility scheduled to open late next spring or summer. The new facility will not have a gymnasium, swimming pool, track, or the many large exercise rooms that the current facility has.



CFC already has several options of other locations for our program. CFC will continue to have 2 locations and may hold more classes space permitting. I anticipate we will attract new fencers in all age groups and develop more competitive opportunities for those interested. Please share with me which side of town, days of the week, and class times are best for you for our practices, to help me with the planning. Thanks!



### CFC DUES and FEES

**YMCA site:** Dues are due: **Tuesday, Dec. 1 or Thursday, Dec. 3.** (Dues for new fencers who start mid-month are pro-rated.) \$10 late charge *after* Th, Dec. 3. No late charge for new fencers.

**CFC dues:** \$60/month (for twice a week fencers) or \$40/month (Tu-only or Th-only) Checks payable to "Jane Littmann"

**YMCA Activity Fee (required for fencers who are not YMCA members nor part of Family Memberships):**

*Ages 9-21: \$25/month. Adults, ages 22 and older: \$30/month.* Checks payable to the "Columbia Downtown YMCA". (YMCA fees go in the same envelope on the sign-in clipboard as your CFC dues.)

**HARBISON site:** Our current session at Harbison continues Weds., through December 16. Class time is 5:30-6:40 PM.

Next Session at Harbison is Wed. January 6—February 10.

Tentative class times are:

4:40 – 5:45 PM Beginners and Youth

5:30 – 6:45 PM Intermediate and Teens-Adult

*Class times may be revised to better accommodate the age groups and schedules of those interested. Please let me know what's best for you.*

Ask Jane about Individual Lessons



Harbison/CFC combined fee: 6-weeks \$115 Nonresidents; \$92 Residents

**Current USA Fencing Membership at least at the noncompetitive (\$10) level is required of all participants in both programs. CFC is an Insured Member Club of USA Fencing.**

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Open fencing (additional bouts) at the Y can continue after class as always from 7:30 pm until closing (8:45 pm) for those who wish to stay.

Individual lessons are available from Jane but are not included in the Club dues. Contact Jane for information, fees, and schedule.

**YMCA:** The YMCA class meets Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30–7:30 pm. **Class begins promptly at 6:30 pm. Please arrive early, and be READY and SUITED UP.** Group instruction is provided for foil and epee.

We will continue to include some bouts during class time after the footwork and blade work drills. We are working on drills that are valuable to practice for all levels of fencers.



### **FOR OUR COMPETITIVE (and soon-to-be competitive) MEMBERS:**

**How Do I Find Out About Tournaments?** Upcoming tournaments and clinics in SC, NC, & GA and around the country can be found at <http://askFRED.net/> (FRED is an acronym for **Fencing Results and Events Data-base**). Be sure to check "AskFRED" regularly as events are frequently added and cancelled.

Note: Not all events listed on AskFred are sanctioned (approved) events by USA Fencing and its divisions. Sanctioned events follow USA Fencing rules, are insured through our national governing body, and permit earning classifications according to the strength of the event and final results of the fencers. To enter sanctioned USA Fencing competitions, you must be a 'competitive' member of USA Fencing and have regulation clothing and regulation electric equipment. **Please contact Jane if you have questions about ordering equipment, or entering competitions, e.g., which events might be appropriate for you.**

**Coaching at Competitions:** If you would like coaching at upcoming competitions, please contact Jane preferably a month ahead of the event.



**Coordinating travel:** If you have car space available, or need transportation, please let me or others in the club know.

**FENCING RULES & refereeing:** Knowing the rules helps you as a fencer, not just as a referee. Read it and learn! The most current rulebook is <http://assets.ngin.com/attachments/document/0054/4279/USRules-4-1-14.pdf> (April 1, 2014 edition).

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## CFC CLUB INFORMATION



**GET-TOGETHERS:** Impromptu. No dates set this month.

**SIGN-IN SHEET:** Please remember to sign-in on the YMCA 4th floor! All names, FIRST AND LAST, are to be PRINTED and LEGIBLE! (This includes Parents and Guests.) *This complies with the YMCA's policies and requirements. (We will enjoy "penalty brownies" from those who forget!)* (Dues and YMCA fees may be left in the envelope attached to the clipboard.)

**CLOTHING SAFETY REMINDERS:** *Legs, ankles, and torso must be fully covered.*

*Long pants with socks, or knickers with long socks are always required for fencing involving any bladework drills and bouting. No holes, shorts, sandals, crocs, or other open shoes are appropriate. Shirts must be long enough to cover your torso. YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO FENCE IN SHORTS OR SANDALS. Safety comes first.*

**POLICY REMINDER:** No CFC equipment may leave the YMCA or Harbison.

**USA FENCING MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENT:** All participants at CFC practices must be at least "non-competitive" USA Fencing Members. **(New members who joined on or after April 1—your memberships are valid through July 31, 2016.)**



You can join, renew, or upgrade your membership *either* at the club *or* online at <https://www.railstation.org/usfencing/MembershipRegistration.aspx> **If you join or renew online, please provide verification of your USFA membership to Jane.**

**NEW FENCERS?** Know anyone who might be interested in learning to fence? New fencers (youth and adults) are welcome to start throughout the year. No experience or equipment is necessary. Please invite your friends who might be interested in fencing to contact us. Our club meets year round.

As always, best en gardes,

--Jane

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*(If you no longer wish to receive the CFC monthly newsletter, please contact me, and I will remove your name from our mailing list.)*