Dear CFC Fencers and Friends,

Missing you, and hoping you, your families, and friends are healthy and safe.

Here are some updates on what is happening while Columbia Fencers’ Club is on “pause”--

* Both our sites, the Katie and Irwin Kahn JCC and Seven Oaks Park, are temporarily closed.
* Currently (and since March 17), USA Fencing (the national governing body of fencing in the U.S.) has suspended club insurance and sanctioning of all club activities throughout the US, including online, through at least April 30, 2020.
* No competitions will be sanctioned until at least **May 11.** All these dates may be pushed later.
* Summer Nationals and qualifiers have also been postponed. Dates are indefinite at this time. Updates are available at <https://www.usafencing.org/news_article/show/1101094>
* USA Fencing has been holding frequent conference calls with Clubs and Divisions where we are exchanging information and discussing a wide range of Club and Division matters. Together with email correspondence, this is enabling the national office, clubs, and divisions to do our best to plan, given so many unknowns and the need for safety.
* I also continue to be actively involved as an Executive Committee member of our SC Division of USA Fencing to assess and plan.

I hope you are keeping yourselves healthy and fit! Of course, we’d like to be fencing together! I will gladly provide more guidance when the sanctions are modified. Some tips and videos were in our last newsletter. Incidentally, if you have photos and updates for our next newsletter, please send them.

I will stay in touch. I know we are all eager to resume our fencing activities and get back together with our fencing friends! But we can only do that when it is safe to do so.

Please remember: **Patience is a key part of a successful game. Patience is an active state. It involves staying safe, forbearance, and cautious preparation, so one survives to take advantage of future opportunities that arise.**

Best “On Guards”, and please take care,

--Jane

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