

2022-2023 Club Policies



40 Rogers Road
Haverhill, MA 01835

CODE OF CONDUCT: All Vivo Fencing Club members and students are expected to conduct themselves with professionalism and courtesy at all times. They are also to show respect for coaches, fellow fencers, and opponents during classes, lessons, and tournaments. Anyone who is found to be in violation of this code of conduct may be asked to leave the Club at the sole discretion of the coaches.

REGULAR SEASON SCHEDULE: Intermediate/Youth Competitive/Advanced Competitive fencing will run 40 weeks August 31, 2022 -June 24, 2023 and are charged monthly from September through June. Classes will not be held on these dates:

- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving Weekend
- Winter Holiday: between Christmas Eve and New Years
- We are OPEN All February and ALL April – even during School vacations.
- Memorial Day Weekend

PROPER ATTIRE: New students should wear long warm up pants, socks, and sneakers. Beginner students may use club equipment for classes and lessons. For safety reasons, nobody will be permitted to fence in shorts or open-toed shoes. Intermediate and all competitive fencers should have their own equipment. When moving from Beginners to Intermediate, you have until three months to acquire your equipment. Please order through the club (see below.)

MAKE-UP GROUP CLASSES and/or PRIVATE LESSONS: There are no make up classes. All private lessons included in the class fees should be made up during the current month. Refunds will not be provided for missed classes, and students, except in the case of extended illness, may not discount the cost of missed classes from future class fees. Intermediate fencers who need to cancel their membership should do so via email or in person by the 20th of the month.

SNOW DAYS: We seek to minimize snow days. On days of a lot of snow, we will follow the Haverhill school closings. Otherwise, we will decide by noon if we will be open. This will be posted on the website, Facebook page and email.

CLUB MEMBERSHIP: All fencers except those at the Beginner I or Beginner II levels will pay an annual club membership. Intermediate fencers pay a once per season Vivo Limited Membership of \$175 for the season, Competitive fencers pay a Full Vivo Club Membership fee of \$300. This includes a tee shirt and Vivo Club competitions. It also enables students to take private lessons at the club. Starting this season, local competition strip coaching will be charged \$25/fencer/event and will be charged automatically through Zen/Vivo.

COMPETITIVE PROGRAM COMMITMENT: Fencers in the Competitive programs commit to a 10-month program (September – June). This is a fencing and a financial commitment. Parents should inform Vivo if there is a health reason the fencer cannot keep its commitment. Fencers cannot take breaks for other reasons. Any conversation about participation should take place via telephone or in person (preferred).

US FENCING ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP: All fencers are required to be membership of the USFA. Returning fencers should renew directly at usafencing.org. Beginner packages include non-competitive USFA membership.

PRIVATE LESSONS: Private (1-on-1) lessons last 20 minutes. Coaches will set up the specific times, working with the fencer families. Monthly private lesson packages are now available on Zen/Vivo. Beyond these packages, by signing up, are approving billing at the end of the month for additional received outside of those included in class packages. The cost for each incremental lesson is \$40. In the event of a conflict, priority will be given to elite students. Please arrive 10 minutes prior to your lesson. If you are sick, please notify us ASAP so that we can move the private lesson around.

TOURNAMENT COACHING: Vivo Fencing Club members are eligible for strip coaching selected local tournaments (within 50 miles of the Club), at a rate of \$30/event/fencer, subject to Coach's availability. There must be a minimum of five Vivo fencers at a local/regional. We will ask you to pay the coaches directly. For regional and national tournaments requiring travel, (e.g., Junior Olympics, NACs, SYC's RYC's RJCC's etc.) A \$60 per event/per fencer fee will be charged for coaching. In addition, all club members participating in that tournament will be charged a pro-rated fee for coaches' travel, per diem and accommodations. All coaching fees are paid just after tournament travel. We will do our best to send you an estimate prior. Generally, there must be six fencers going to a regional or national competition for the coach to travel.

ARMORY/EQUIPMENT: Students are NOT permitted to use the club armory without the coach's permission. Armory services are provided by the club for a fee. Students should fill out a form with weapon issues. Equipment is ordered through the club. We can size up the fencers and specify the order for you. Costs for armory and equipment are posted at the armory. The club charges the card on file for armory services and equipment ordered at the end of each month.