



Foiled Again's Aprils Newsletter

Competition News!!

Hannah and Sam Boyle were selected to be part of the England Fencing Team travelling to Poland. Hanna finished 47th out of 103 and Sam finished 60th out of 109. So well done to both of them.

You've gotta be in it to win it! – by Cliff Webb

The Chairman e-mailed me the application form and suggested I should enter the East Midlands Beginners Competition.

I have to admit that I was very nervous. I had no idea how the day would run, how many there would be there and whether I would make a fool of myself. I really needn't have worried. The event organisers were really relaxed and put everyone at their ease. The format of the competition was explained and there were plenty of patient calls for the competitors to get to the correct piste. There was however, nothing anyone could do to stop the roller coaster of emotions that I rode that morning! It's true what they say about judging a book by it's cover – you can't and I went from hoping to win a couple of fights, to thinking I might be able to make it half way up the pool. I was dreading my last bout as I had been watching the guy all morning and he had something about him that made me nervous. He looked the part, fenced the part and had youth on his side! Funnily enough he told me afterwards that he had been dreading meeting me having watched me etc etc... I beat him and the nerves took on a new twist. Maybe I would be in with chance for third place? When I saw one of the guys that had beaten me pick up the bronze medal I felt pleased with having taken some points off one of the medallists. When they called my name next I couldn't believe it! What a great day, what great experience. I love this sport.

Thanks Matt for the encouragement and the gentle push to go. Thanks Mick for the coaching that continues to teach this old dog new tricks. To all you out there who are better fencers than those that took part on the day – you've gotta be in it to win it and next time it could be you. Above all, it was great to plug into the box and take part in something that other competitors presumed I could do. I wasn't being coached, or part of a class. I was one of the fencers, fighting for real.

Interclub Competition

The Club is to run a friendly competition between fencers from Thursday and Saturday parts of the Club. All the under 14's will compete in Foil competition and over 14s will compete in a 3 weapon team competition. Each team will consist of three competitors, 1 Foilist, 1 Epeeist and 1 Sabreur with each competing in a bout with the winner being the first to 5 hits. The second bout will carry on till one team has a total of 10 points, then the third bout up to 15. Dependant on the number of teams that enter there will either be 1 or 2 rounds of pool matches before progressing to Direct Elimination.

Where possible this competition will be run using the clubs electric scoring equipment.

This competition is designed to be a friendly and to introduce new fencers to how a competitive competition would be run, but the main aim is that everyone competing should have fun!

Club Mark News

Recently the Club has recently undergone an external verification of our Club Mark status. Following the visit the Club has been informed that the assessors were impressed by *"high standard of achievement"* and *"obvious development of individual athletes"*. This is testament to the hard work put into the Club by all its members, so well done everyone.

Saturday fencing closures

During May the Saturday class will not be running on the following dates: 16th, 23rd & 30th.