

# La Riposte

A Newsletter of The Swords Club  
No 2—May 2010



## Welcome and an update on the NSWFA

Welcome to the second issue of *La Riposte*—to keep you in touch with Swords Club news.

As you may know, The Swords Club is one of 23 clubs currently affiliated with the NSWFA, the lead organisation representing the sport of fencing in NSW, and a member state of the Australian Fencing Federation. It operates a website that is informative and regularly updated — log on at [www.nswfencing.org.au](http://www.nswfencing.org.au).

The NSWFA met and elected a new committee in March of this year. The new executive committee comprises Duncan Fairweather (President), John Chow (Vice President), Frances Chow (Secretary) and Nigel Cotman (Treasurer) with ordinary members being Alex Andre, Jess Brooks and David Hoffman. The committee of the NSWFA are comprised of volunteers who give up their time to assist us all in the running and promotion of the sport of fencing in NSW. The funding of the NSWFA is primarily derived from membership fees and competition entries.

The new executive team has strong links with The Swords Club (TSC). Nigel Cotman, in addition to being the new NSWFA Treasurer, also fulfils the role of the TSC President; additionally John Chow and Frances Chow regularly attend the TSC on Tuesday and Thursday evenings for lessons and general training.

In addition to developing, organising and representing the sport of fencing in NSW the NSWFA also provides insurance to affiliated clubs and members. Details of the insurance policies can be found on the NSWFA website.

The TSC delegates to the NSWFA are Fiona Budniak and Vince Newton. The role of the delegates is to represent the club at NSWFA Committee meeting and report back to the club on NSWFA matters.

Please join us in wishing the new executive all the best for their efforts in 2010 and also extending our thanks to the previous committee for their efforts in 2009.

## Club Competitions

In 2010 The Swords Club will be reinstating two internal Club Competitions. Both will be electric Foil Competitions, with pool and DE rounds held in normal fencing times at the Club. The Jubilee Cup will be a senior competition, with the Mens competition starting on Tuesday 8th June, and the Ladies Competition on Tuesday 15th June. The McEvoy Cup will be presented to the winner of the Junior event which will be held later in the year.

## DID YOU KNOW?

**The strip or piste is designed to replicate combat in confined quarters such as a castle hallway. The end of the fencing strip represents the line drawn in the earth by duelists' seconds: to retreat behind this line during the duel indicated cowardice and loss of honour.**

**The 750 gram weight test used to ensure a touch in epee is scored with sufficient force is based on the amount of tension required to break the skin.**

**Fencers wear white uniforms because before the advent of electronic scoring, touches were recorded on the usually white surface with a wad of ink-soaked cotton on the tips of the weapons.**



## STOP PRESS!

**Channel 7 Disney Channel is coming in to the club on Thursday 10th June from 5 to 8pm to film Daniel West and Kieran Loughlin, our two members who came first in the State Schools Championships recently!**

### IN SHORT

**Good luck to those fencers competing in the AFF #2 event in Adelaide next weekend.**

**Fencing will be on as usual at the club over the long weekend.**

**Welcome to the new fencers in the beginners classes on Tuesday evenings. We hope you enjoy the introduction to fencing and become long standing and committed members of the club!**

## Upcoming Events

6th June	Cadet State Championships Foil	Men 0900 Women 0930
	Novice #3	Men 1230 Women 1330
20th June	Cadet Foil Team State Champs	Men 0845 Women 0915
	U11 and U13 Foil	Boys 1230 Girls 1230
3rd July–7th July	Australian U15 and Cadet National Championships	
18th July	McCowage Open Foil	Men 0845 Women 0915
16 May	Veteran Foil	Men 1300 Women 1300
31st July	AJ Rae and RA White Schools Teams Competition– at Newington	

All competitions at Marrickville unless otherwise stated.

The Club will be running special training on the weekend of 26th and 27th June for those competing in the Australian U15 and Cadet Championships. Ask Vivienne for further details.

Vivienne is also running a Coaching Course over the next few months at the Club. The Club has a backlog of people waiting to start fencing, and all our current coaches are fully booked. If you have ever considered earning some money by coaching beginners, this is the perfect way to start. On completion of the course you will have the option of applying for your Level 1 Coaching Certificate through the NSW State Coach.

## Congratulations!

The Swords Club has had some terrific results over the last couple of months, with the younger fencers showing the way in the State Schools Championships held at Newington.

In the Senior Boys Foil Competition, Jesse Mawson was placed third equal. In the U15 Boys Foil Competition Daniel West was placed first, and Lachlan Fitzgerald equal third. In the U13 Boys Competition, Kieran Loughlin was placed first and Edoardo Crepaldi-Miilone second, and in the U11 Boys Foil Competition, Emilio Lapitan was placed equal 3rd.

In the Girls U15 Foil event Emily Venn was second and Claire Graham-White was equal third and Isobelle Furness was placed 2nd in the U11 event. And lastly, in the Presidents Cup Open Womens Foil event, Jackie Budniak was placed second.

Congratulations to all the medal winners and a reminder to keep competing as points are awarded in every competition entered over the year which tally towards the Overall Best Club in NSW. TSC is currently third in the points score!



Daniel West