

Coaching Support at Tournaments

Front Range Fencing Club would like for all fencers to benefit from coaching at as many local and national tournaments as possible. To that end, FRFC charges a fee for this service, as do most clubs, in order to help cover expenses associated with sending coaches to tournaments on a regular basis. All coaching fees will be paid directly to FRFC, not to the coach directly. With more FRFC fencers entering more tournaments, we hope that this policy benefit the fencers and will allow us to cover the cost of providing coaching for our fencers at tournaments.

COLORADO EVENTS

For the 2016-17 season, FRFC plans to have a coach at the following designated events:

Colorado Youth Cup or Regional Youth Cup (Y10, Y12, Y14, RYC)

9/10-11, Fencing Academy of Denver, CYC

10/15-16, South Denver Fencing Center, CYC and RYC

2/25-26, Denver Fencing Center, CYC and RYC

4/8-9, Denver Fencing Center, CYC and RYC

Colorado Cup (Senior, Open)

11/26-27, Fencing Academy of Denver

3/4-5, South Denver Fencing Center

6/3-4, Fencing Academy of Denver

Qualifying Events

12/11, Junior Olympic Qualifier, Junior, Cadet

5/6-7, Denver Fencing Center, Summer Nationals Qualifier, y14, Div2, Div3

Sectional Youth Circuit (SYC) and Regional Cadet Circuit (RCC)

11/19-21, Crowne Plaza, Denver, y10, Y12, Y14, Cadet

Regional Junior Cadet Circuit (RJCC) and Regional Open Circuit (ROC)

3/25-26, Aurora, Colorado, Junior, Cadet, Div1A

USAFA events

9/17-18, Air Force Open Scrimmage, y12, cadet, senior

9/24-25, Nick Toth Open, Junior, Senior

THE STANDARD COACHING FEE FOR COLORADO EVENTS WILL BE \$25 PER EVENT

This fee is included in FRFC Competitive Level fencers monthly fee.

Others may pay the Colorado Event Coaching Fee at:

<http://frontrangefencing.tripod.com/entering-competitions.html>

NATIONAL EVENTS

For the 2016-17 season, coaches will provide their services under the following conditions:

- The fencer requests coaching during the event directly from FRFC, not the coach.
- A coach is available for the event the fencer is attending.
- The fencer is willing to pay some or all of the coach travel costs associated with the event as well as a \$50 per event Coaching Fee.

Information on event designations and age classification is at the end of this document.

It is the coach's job to act in the student's best interest at all times. However, having a coach present at the event is not a substitute for the fencer having properly trained for the level of competition they have entered.

➤ **Coaches will make every attempt to be stripside for each fencer.**

However, due to the format of events, numerous fencers are fencing at the same time. Coaches will do their best to give everyone equal time during the event.

➤ **Coaches will support the fencer if the referee makes an error in the rules, is officiating dishonestly, or is clearly not capable of refereeing at the level of fencing at the event.**

Under those conditions a coach will attempt to intercede with the bout committee or Fencing Official representative. Please remember that referees do make mistakes, however, disputing every judgment call by a referee, or even loudly pointing out the occasional mistake, is not beneficial. Ultimately, the referee is more apt to listen to coaches and fencers who raise objections if both the coach and the fencer make a habit of treating officials with respect.

➤ **Coaches will not hesitate to reprimand a fencer for poor behavior.**

Coaches do not travel to tournaments to discipline their fencers. No coach or representative of FRFC will tolerate illegal or disruptive behavior by a fencer while at the tournament, venue, or hotel. Coaching services will be withdrawn from any fencer acting in a manner that does not reflect well on the club, coaches, or him or herself as an athlete. If the fencer is a minor, a member of the coaching staff will notify the parents of the situation.

➤ **Coaches will not act as armorer at events.**

It is the fencer's responsibility to arrive at a tournament with working equipment.

Event Designations

What is an RYC?

RYC = Regional Youth Circuit tournament. You cannot earn USFA national points at an RYC, however attendance does qualify you for Y10 and Y12 events at Summer Nationals and the North American Cup tournaments. You cannot earn a rating at an RYC unless the competition meets the criteria for a C1 tournament. (see USA Fencing classification chart).

What is an SYC?

SYC = Super Youth Circuit tournament. These are bigger national tournaments designed to provide national level competition to youth fencers. If you place in the top 40% of your event, you will earn national ranking points. Y14 events may also be big enough that you will have the opportunity to earn a rating if you finish in the top 8 or so. You can attend as many SYCs as you choose, but points from only one SYC will count in the national rankings. For Y10 and Y12, attendance at a SYC will qualify you for the NAC and for Nationals.

What is an ROC?

ROC = Regional Open Circuit tournament. These events provide larger opens that are not as focused on elite fencers as Div. I NACs are. These are generally very good competitions. They also constitute a qualifying path for Div. 1A at Summer Nationals.

What is a NAC?

NAC = North American Cup tournament. These are run by USA Fencing. All of the best fencers in the country attend the NACs. You must attend an RYC or an SYC to qualify to fence in Y10 or Y12. There are no qualification requirements to fence in Y14 or the older age groups (Cadets and Juniors) at a NAC. You can earn national points if you finish in the top 40%, and they will round up to include that entire bracket to a maximum of 32 fencers.

Age Classifications

All are based on the calendar year starting January 1 (NOT member year)

Y10 = ages ten and under

y12 = ages 12 and under

y14 = ages 14 and under

cadet = ages under 17

junior = ages under 20

senior = 20 and over

veteran = a variety of age groups starting at 40