

GWENT SWORD CLUB

news

June 2008

Membership structure and fees

At the Annual General Meeting (see below), it was agreed that regrettably fees will have to be increased in order to cover our costs, but to encourage fencers to attend regularly a new membership structure will be introduced.

From September, there will be a annual GSC membership fee of £20 (£15 for juniors, students and OAPs). This fee will grant full membership of the club and will allow fencers to continue attending at the current rates, including monthly standing orders. Cards will be issued and only current members will have voting rights at the AGM or EGMs.

All other fencers, including visitors to the club and those whose full GSC membership is not currently valid for whatever reason will still be able to fence, but sessions will be charged at £5 (£4) each.. This associate membership is not available by standing order.

AGM - finance

The AGM, held on June 8 in Chepstow, heard that the club, although remaining solvent, made a significant loss on the previous financial year and an action plan drawn up by officers was approved. In addition to the membership restructure:

- * Numbers will be monitored at each venue to ensure each pays its way. Particular attention will be paid to Caerleon after the end of the proposed autumn beginners' course.
- * The cost for an eight-week beginner course will be increased to £50 (£40), including social membership, for courses starting after September 1.
- * Beginners' courses will be run more frequently, even if the numbers involved are relatively small.
- * Fresh efforts will be made to secure sponsors and to maximise available grant aid.

AGM - officers

The following were elected:

Chairman: Colin Hyndman;

Secretary: Carl Difford;

Treasurer: Catherine Fisher.

Jill Difford was appointed auditor for 2008-09.

Chepstow summer break

The last Friday session at Chepstow before the summer break will be on July 18. Sessions are due to restart at Chepstow on Friday, September 5. Throughout the summer, Monday sessions at Newport will continue (7.30pm-9.30pm) and all are welcome to join in.

June social

Following the club foil competition and the AGM in Chepstow, several members and a couple of guests enjoyed the customary "set meal B for however many we are" at The Red Lantern. After so much food was consumed, it was good to see many of the diners making amends for their gluttony by supporting the Oxfam Open later in the month.

GSC annual foil competition

Congratulations to this year's winners:

James Wood-Fisher (senior) and Jamal Nawaz-Khan (under-16).

European under-23 Championships

Well done Jamie Melia, who finished 51st in the men's epee.

Wrexham Open results

Andrew McLeod, 26th MF;

James Wood-Fisher, 54th MF.

Oxfam Open results

Abi Difford, 2nd WF;

Mike Edwards, 24th MF;

Shane Powell, 18th ME;

Gareth Price, 17th MS;

James Wood-Fisher, 12th MF.

School Games

Congratulations to both Abi Difford and George Orchart for their selection to fence foil for Wales in the School Games in Bath in August.

Carl Difford, secretary

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