

SAFC Ladder Tournament - Rules

OVERVIEW

FOIL AND EPEE LADDERS

Each weapon will have a separate ladder, reset every 6-month period: Jan – June, July-Dec. Winners are announced bi-annually at the end of each period.

There is no prize, just the honour of winning. A list of previous winners will be kept for bragging rights.

For now, fencers can only participate in one ladder at a time.

I CHALLENGE YOU TO A DUEL!

HOW TO ISSUE A CHALLENGE

For convenience, challenges should be issued directly to your opponent on the night. Results should be logged immediately on the scoreboard.

CHALLENGE RULES

The following general rules apply to challenges:

- Fencers may challenge anyone up to **three levels above them**. (In the unlikely event that all three fencers above a participant are not present that week, said fencer is allowed to Challenge four positions above).
- Fencers may not choose to refuse a challenge.
- You may only issue one challenge at a time.
- You may only be challenged by one person at a time. Challenges against you are made on a first-come-first-served basis.
- No waitlists. If you are already agreed to a bout, you cannot book a follow-up bout behind it until the result is recorded. If you are challenged to a bout, you may not attempt to issue a challenge of your own until after you have resolved the first bout – which must be done in a timely manner.
- Immediate rematches are not allowed.
- Each week, once you have completed your first Challenge, you **MUST** take on a defence before progressing onto another Challenge.
- Each fencer is allowed a **MAXIMUM TOTAL OF 4 LADDER FIGHTS PER WEEK**
- Re-matches for the same level are not allowed on the same night. *For example: You lose your Challenge to the person placed three levels above you. Then you defend a Challenge. You then cannot fence for the same three places above, but instead must opt for one or two places above you.* EXCEPTION: The 2nd ranked fencer may Challenge the Champion twice on one night.

BOUT RULES

All ladder bouts are first to 10 points, or 6 minutes (with 1 min break allowed).

Epee only: In the event of a tie, priority is decided by coin toss and 1 minute is given. Next hit wins, or if time runs out the fencer with priority wins.

RANKING

INITIAL SEEDING

Seeding will be made at Club Captain's discretion for the first ladder. Thereafter, seeding is calculated by reversing the prior period's results.

NEW PARTICIPANTS

New participants should contact the Club Captain if they wish to be added to the Ladder Tournament.

New fencers not in the initial ladder seed will be added to the bottom of the ladder.

ADVANCING

Challengers always fight those above them in the ranking. When a challenger wins a bout, he or she jumps ahead of the defender in the ranking, passing other fencers ranked between them, if applicable. When the challenger loses a bout, both fencers remain at the same rank.

PARTICIPATION

MINIMUM PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

Fencers in the tournament must commit to regular participation or else their inactivity may hold up the progression of fencers below them. To be considered active, fencers must be present for a **MINIMUM OF ONE THURSDAY PER MONTH**. If you are not present for 3 fencing Thursdays* in a row without notice, you will be pulled out of the rankings. At this point, to re-join you must start back at the bottom.

*To be clear, if the club is closed that week does not count as a fencing Thursday.

RESIGNING

Fencers who aren't interested in participating in the ladder anymore are encouraged to let the Club Captain know so they can be removed from the ranking, as a courtesy to other fencers.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Fencers are encouraged to give notice to the Club Captain of leave of absence in any case where they may not be able to accept challenges (injury, illness, extended travel, etc.). This will temporarily remove the fencer from the ranking and allow others to pass by.

There is no penalty for taking a leave of absence for periods up to and including 6 fencing weeks. If the period of leave is longer, the Fencer will drop 2 places per week. Outside of this, Fencers returning from leave will resume their original ranking (unless ranked top 3, see below).

Fencers in the top 3 who take a leave of absence will need to win their way back into the top 3 ranking. Returning fencers get one special challenge that can be made to anyone at their previous rank or up to 2 below. If they win, they assume their previous ranking, bumping everyone else down a place. If they lose, they will be placed 3 below their prior rank. *E.g. Previously 1st who loses Challenge is in 4th place, or previously 3rd is now in 6th place, etc.*

EPEE LADDER

RANK	NAME	Absence		
		1	2	3
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				

FOIL LADDER

RANK	NAME	Absence		
		1	2	3
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
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