

Three Counties League – Rules

V15 Jan. '24

Rules and guidance for the Three Counties League matches:

1. All dates are subject to agreement between the club captains and can be re-arranged for a mutually more convenient time if necessary.
The Three Counties coordinator should be told of rearrangements, see 8. below
2. Matches will be in foil and epee and must be run using electric gear.
3. When a team is hosting a match, they **MUST** put out a team of **AT LEAST 6** fencers (minimum of 3 in each weapon).
4. Electric foil should use lame bibs as standard.
5. Bouts are not subject to any 'non combativity' or 'passivity' rules.
6. All bouts will be 'first to 5 hits or 3 minutes - whichever is first' NOT 'relay'. This format is more practical for club evenings, and stops a 'ringer' being put in.
7. **NEW 2023 onwards.** Team selection.
 - Fencers who train at multiple clubs are encouraged to choose only one club for the League year. It is not considered fair practice to be fencing multiple times for more than one club.
 - Home matches should always be conducted using home club fencers.
 - If a club is short on fencers for away matches, they should give notice in advance to their host club and make them aware of any 'loan' fencer. Alternatively, the home team may nominate a home fencer to switch sides as a 'loan' to help make up the away team of 3 Fencers. This is to help avoid cancellations for away matches.
 - Any issues or disputes, contact the Three Counties Coordinator.
8. Results for each match should be submitted by the home captain (within a couple of days please) to the web form at [Three Counties – St Albans Fencing Club \(sa-fc.org.uk\)](http://Three Counties – St Albans Fencing Club (sa-fc.org.uk))
9. In the event of a missed / forfeited match, the present team will record a victory (5-0 in each weapon).
10. At the end of the season there will be 3 trophies awarded:
 - Foil Trophy – For the greatest number of victories in foil (bout indicator used for ties)
 - Epee Trophy – for the greatest number of victories epee (bout indicator used for ties)
 - League Trophy – winner of points-based league for the season
11. **NEW 2023 onwards.** League Trophy points system:
 - 3 points for overall win on the night (which is both weapon scores combined)
 - 2 points for a draw - home or away
 - 0 points for a loss - however there are two options for a bonus point!
 - WEAPON WIN BP - 1 bonus point awarded to the losing side only (not applicable to winning side or in draws) if they have a win on one weapon. *E.g., Win 5-4 foil but lose 1-8 epee. Home team has therefore lost 6-12 overall. Away team gets 3-point win, but Home team still gets 1 bonus point for winning in one weapon.*
 - CLOSE CALL BP - 1 bonus point available to a team who doesn't win either weapon but put up a good scrap and finished the night with a score of 7-11 or 8-10.
 - Bout indicators will be used in case of tied points
 - At the end of each season the league positions will be used to create a handicap for the next season, as follows:

1 st place = -3points	5 th place = +2 point
2 nd place = -2 points	6 th place = +4 points
3 rd place = -1 point	7 th place = +6 points
4 th place = no handicap	
12. Winning clubs are responsible for and expected to have their name engraved on the appropriate trophy at the club's cost.