



Sarnia Sword Club



En Garde

October 2009

Committee: Ian Milner – President; Wendy Batiste – Hon Secretary; Meyrick Simmonds – Hon Treasurer
Florent Boyer; MaryCarol Dack; Marcel de Garis; Sue Martel

The October Committee Meeting was held on Tuesday 6 October 2009. All Committee members were in attendance.

Points arising at the meeting of particular importance to Club members:

- The Royal Navy Fencing Team** will be coming to Guernsey on the weekend of 17 / 18 October. Fencing will be at the Brock Road Youth Centre from 10a.m. to 5p.m. on Saturday and from 11a.m. to 5p.m. on Sunday. Fencing is by invitation, but all are welcome to come along and support SSC – There is a viewing gallery overlooking the hall.

On the Saturday evening a meal has been arranged at The Duke of Normandie. Everyone is welcome to that – friends and family as well as Club members. Copies of the menu are on the Club noticeboard and on the website. Please let MaryCarol (marycaroldack@hotmail.com) have your menu choices and payment of £16 per person (cheques payable to Sarnia Sword Club) by Thursday 15 October at the latest. This is a good social weekend, so come along and join in.
- Junior Team Competition** – Sunday 29 November at La Mare de Carteret Secondary School. Open to junior fencers under the age of 18. Entry forms will be on the website shortly, or from coaches. Teams of 3 – So if you are under 18, get a couple of your friends together, think up as original a team name as you can (!) and enter. And if you are 18 or over – come along to La Mare de Carteret on 29 November - the teams may be “junior”, but the standard of fencing is not! And you can always get involved with time-keeping, scoring, - or (most important job!) keeping the organisers plied with coffee!
- Change of venue** – Beau Sejour will not be available on 12 November. The likely venue will be Vale Douzaine Rooms. Confirmation of this will be posted on the website as soon as possible.
- Beginners’ Courses** – As part of a “recruitment drive” the Committee have decided to implement a “reward system” for introducing beginners. Bring along a friend, and (once they have paid for the course) you will get a refund of part of your subs. The more friends you introduce, the bigger your refund! Next Beginners’ course starts 14 January

2010. Names and contact details to Sue, or e-mail via the link on the Website – So start twisting your friends' arms – Not too much though, 'cos they'll need to be able to hold a foil on 14 January!!

5. **Reminder re BFA membership** – If you are going to fence, you need some sort of BFA/GUE membership. The Club's BFA membership only covers officials and those performing official duties, and fencers on "taster courses". Full BFA membership (noting Guernsey as your Home Country) is the easiest, but if you don't want that for any reason, there is a BFA "Social" membership which allows you to fence at the venue of your named Club and in one competition per season. If you really want to go down that road, speak to a member of the Committee, because at the moment there are "grey areas" as to the correct way to apply for this type of membership and how it will affect GUE. But if you haven't got BFA membership at the moment, please do something about it, because otherwise you will not be insured.
6. **SSC website** – Some pages of this are now very out-of-date. Efforts are being made to update it and soon you should have all the Club information on line. Watch that space!
7. **Webb Ivory Fundraising** – For many years Wendy has organised fund raising with the Webb Ivory catalogue for Christmas presents etc. However, she is now no longer able to do this. So if anyone would like to volunteer to take this on, please speak to Wendy and she will let you know what it entails. It's a very nice fund raiser, and a big thank you to Wendy for doing it for so long. It would be a shame to lose it now.
8. Finally, we have to say goodbye to **Florent**, who will shortly be leaving the Island. He has not been with us very long, but he has been a very useful member of the Club, both as a fencer in competitions, and as a referee and general helper at junior competitions, and more recently as a member of the Committee. Florent, you will be missed, and we wish you all the best for the future. Come back and see us when you can.

Next Committee Meeting: Tuesday 3 November 2009. If you want to raise any matters with the Committee, speak to a Committee member.