

## MK Fencing Academy Fencing Equipment Policy

### Full Uniform Requirement

All fencers are required to be in full uniform at all times during training sessions, competitions, and camps. This uniform includes the following equipment, each meeting the minimum safety standard of 350 N or higher:

- Mask (350 N or higher)
- Fencing Jacket (350 N or higher)
- Fencing Pants (350 N or higher)
- Fencing Glove
- Fencing Socks
- Two (2) Electrical Epees (For U12 fencers, Epee Size 0-2 with a small guard)
- Two (2) Body Wires
- Underplastron
- Chest Protector
- Indoor Fencing Shoes

### Equipment Usage and Safety

**1. Mandatory Wear:** Masks, jackets, underplastrons, chest protectors, long pants, and gloves must always be worn when fencing or during drills. All equipment must meet the 350 N safety standard.

### 2. Sword Handling:

- Swords must be treated with respect and awareness at all times.

- Swords must be carried point down at all times. They are not to be used as toys.
- A sword is only pointed at another person when that person is fully masked and ready to fence or drill.

**3. Mask Requirement:** Fencers must always be masked when swords are raised, point forward. This applies to all situations, including discussions of actions and during drills.

#### **4. Controlled Fencing:**

- Violent actions are prohibited. Fencers must control parries and attacks to prevent injury from whipping or hard stabbing actions.
- Flicks should only be executed if done correctly. If not, avoid performing them.
- Avoid causing body contact or using the unarmed hand against your opponent. Do not turn your back on your opponent.
- Stop fencing immediately if something feels wrong, if your opponent retreats and signals to stop, or if you believe a sword is broken.

**5. Responsibility During Counterattacks:** If counterattacking, fencers are responsible for preventing body contact, injury, and weapon breakage.

**6. Reporting Unsafe Behavior:** If you observe dangerous or uncontrolled behavior, report it to the coach immediately. The coach will address the issue without disclosing your identity.

#### **7. Equipment Inspection:**

- Inspect your swords and mask each time you use them.
- If using academy gear, report any issues to the coach immediately. Do not return defective gear to storage without reporting it, as the Academy follows a regular maintenance schedule for all equipment.

#### **8. Proper Footwear:**

- Wear appropriate shoes for fencing (indoor trainers or fencing shoes).
- Ensure shoes are clean before entering the fencing floor to avoid dust and moisture buildup, which can make the floor slippery.

### **9. Fencing Floor Etiquette:**

- Fencers on the floor have the right of way.
- Those not fencing must keep themselves and their gear clear of active fencers.

### **10. Injury Protocol:**

- If an injury occurs, report it immediately to the coach for proper assistance and documentation.

This policy is designed to ensure the safety and well-being of all fencers while maintaining the highest standards of conduct and respect for the sport.