



School of Medieval European Fencing

Terms and Conditions of Membership

As a participant in the knightly Art of Fence, and bound by the chivalrous and gentlemanly conduct that this Art demands, I, the undersigned, will show due respect and consideration to all my fellow members as I would expect shown unto myself and ask nothing of him, or her, as I would not be prepared to be asked.

Whilst practising the Art I will refrain from causing unnecessary and/or intentional pain or injury to others and adhere to the instructions and cautions given by the instructors at all times. Let it be known that it is the responsibility of the Recipient to ensure that any strike put upon them is defended honestly and with intent, but at the same time the responsibility of the Participant to ensure that any strike they initiate is made with consideration and afore-thought to their opponent's safety. Any injury sustained will be considered the fault of the injured party and I understand that no inter-member legal action will apply concerning any activity associated within the School of Medieval European Fencing (from this point known as SMEF) and the Art. I except that accidents can happen and the SMEF enforce a policy of prevention rather than cure regarding such occurrences. I am aware that any insurance provided by the SMEF is unlikely to include 'member to member' liability.

The instructors dictate all activities ongoing within the SMEF. This includes, but is not limited to, the practice of all HEMA (Historical European Martial Arts) related disciplines and the use of any practice weapon, including and not restricted to, shinai. If I wish to sport ANY steel weapon, rebated or otherwise, then I will do so ONLY with the prior consent of the recognized SMEF instructors and not before the signing of a 'Total Disclaimer', of which this document represents.

SMEF instructors reserve the right to expel, without prejudice or refund, any member, including myself, deemed to be unsuitable or unable to fulfil the qualities necessary to practise the Art and receive the instruction thereof, or considered to be a danger to other members or themselves whilst practising the Art.

Should I have any reasons for concern I will air these openly with those parties involved. Should this prove to be impractical or impossible then I will bring these matters before the instructors, either related or non-related to the initial problem, where full confidence can be assured and matters dealt with in a manner appropriate to the cause. The Instructors word is final and should I wish to appeal I will approach the Chairman or another higher official of the SMEF.

I am expected to attend every lesson unless bound by educational, extraordinary personal or work related obligations. Any lessons I miss will be regained by study and practice in my own time, so preventing the possibility of interruption with regards to the ongoing instruction and understanding of the Art by the other members. I understand that, by paying my subscription at the beginning of each month, I am not entitled to a refund regarding missed lessons. However, should my absence be prolonged and beyond my control then negotiation for re-imburement is at the discretion of the Instructor for that class and I accept their decision. The SMEF reserves the right to amend the annual membership and monthly/weekly subscription charge at one month's notice either by verbal, written or electronic communication.

I am expected to provide for myself, within two months of membership registration, a pair of appropriate gloves and a shinai adapted for longsword, which are available from the school.

I understand that the SMEF accepts no responsibility for any personal injury or damage/loss of property that might occur as a consequence of the activities therein.

I understand that it is my responsibility to inform the instructor of any physical, psychological or medical impairment that might affect my, or any other persons, safety during any activity within the SMEF.

I, the undersigned, have read and understand the terms and conditions of membership as stated above, and promise to adhere to these rules at all times and to the best of my knowledge and ability.

Signed.....

Date.....

Print.....