



Fencer Code of Conduct

Fencing • Character • Excellence

Together we show up, give our best, support others and keep improving.

Organisation	Cambridge Sword Ltd
Policy title	Fencer Code of Conduct
Policy Number	05
Version	V4
Policy owner	Club Manager and coaching team
Created	Drawn from existing Cambridge Sword policies and procedures
Updated draft	August 2026
Next review	August 2027, or sooner if guidance, law, club practice or safeguarding requirements change

At a glance

- Fencers are expected to show respect, listen to coaches and help keep sessions safe.
- Fencers must wear the required kit and follow safety rules at all times.
- Fencers should support teammates and avoid bullying, exclusion, intimidation or unsafe behaviour.
- Competition conduct matters: fencers should respect referees, opponents, coaches and organisers.
- Fencers should tell a trusted adult if they feel unsafe, worried or upset.

Purpose

This code explains the behaviour expected from Cambridge Sword fencers during sessions, camps, competitions, events and club communications.

As a Cambridge Sword fencer, I will

- show up ready to listen, learn, try hard and improve
- treat coaches, teammates, opponents, officials, parents/carers and volunteers with respect
- follow fencing rules, safety instructions and coach decisions
- wear the required protective kit and tell a coach if my kit feels unsafe or does not fit
- use weapons, electric equipment, venue equipment and club kit carefully
- support other fencers and avoid teasing, bullying, exclusion, intimidation or unkind behaviour
- use appropriate language and behaviour in sessions, competitions and WhatsApp or digital groups
- respect decisions made by referees, coaches and officials, even if I am disappointed
- tell a coach, parent/carer or Welfare Officer if I feel unsafe, worried or upset.

I understand that I must not

- mess about with weapons, scoring equipment, venue fixtures or kit
- fence without the correct kit or ignore safety instructions
- bully, harass, threaten, intimidate or deliberately exclude others
- use discriminatory, abusive, sexualised or aggressive language
- share photos, videos or screenshots of others without permission
- send or respond to inappropriate direct messages involving under-18s
- smoke, vape, drink alcohol or use drugs in connection with club sessions or competitions.

If things go wrong

Coaches will usually start with a reminder and give fencers the chance to put things right.

Serious or repeated behaviour may lead to time out, parent/carer contact, limits on participation, removal from an activity, or further action under the Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy.

Safety, kit and electric scoring expectations

Fencers should understand that they have a duty to fence safely and avoid hurtful, violent or dangerous actions. They should also speak up if they notice unsafe kit, a broken blade, unsuitable clothing, a mask issue or any situation that could put someone at risk.

Fencers must only use electronic scoring equipment when a coach says this is appropriate. They must wear the protective clothing required for the activity and must follow coach instructions about blade size, electric kit, rotation, relays and safe waiting areas.

Related policies and guidance

This document should be read alongside:

- Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy
- Safeguarding and Welfare Policy
- Equipment, Kit Loan and Armoury Policy
- WhatsApp and Digital Messaging Policy
- Spectator and Competition Conduct
- Complaints and Concerns Procedure

Review

This document will be reviewed annually, or sooner if there is a safeguarding concern, complaint, incident, near miss, change in club practice, change in guidance, or change in relevant law or governing body requirements.

Approval and review record

Prepared by	Emily Lucas, Operations Manager	Date	August 2026
Reviewed by	Sarah Paveley, Club Director / Head Coach	Date	
Reviewed by	Hannah Jones, Welfare Officer	Date	
Next review due	August 2027, or sooner if required	Date	