

METRO TACOMA FENCING CLUB

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14 March 2020

Dear Metro Tacoma Fencing Club Families,

We want to keep all members updated to our current plans for Metro Tacoma Fencing Club (MTFC) during this COVID-19 pandemic in order to give you some sense of the club direction and to help you plan during this chaotic time. The club will be completely closed to all activities through at least March 20. During this time we will be cleaning and washing gear; this will also give our families time to arrange their child care and schooling. All classes, clinics, camps, and competitions are cancelled through April 24 in alignment with the Governor's decision to close schools and limit large gatherings. We know. This is a long time and we already miss our fencing and our friends. We hope that closing the club for over a week will make everyone safer in light of the average 5.2 days for onset of symptoms.

We have already reached out to the Pierce County Department of Health regarding their advice for private lessons, semi-private lessons, and limited open bouts after March 20. We have asked for their recommendations regarding lower density interaction since the goal with so many closures is social distancing which will decrease the risk of contracting or sharing the virus. If you would be interested in continuing your private lessons, signing up for semi-private lessons, or participating in limited open fencing should these activities be approved then please e-mail the club so we can anticipate the number of fencers we would need to accommodate.

Coach Chris will be at the club on Saturday 3/14/2020 from 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM for members to pick up their gear if you desire. Now is a great time to wash and repair your gear. A number of useful [resources](#) including a [Cleaning Gear](#) guide is available on our club website at tacomafencing.com under the RESOURCES tab.

The board is still working through the best way to stay financially secure into the future in case of a prolonged closure. We are also working out best ways to support our coaches with classes and lessons being cancelled. Please be patient with us as we work through these challenging and important issues. As far as tuition and fees for March, we have started processing 50% credits for all classes as our students have been able to participate in the first half of the month but will not be able to participate in the second half of the month due to the closure. Membership fees will also be credited 50% for the month for fencers except those participating in the competitive and elite classes who have an annual commitment and utilize the space more than the beginners. You will only be charged for the private lessons that have been taken.

Please e-mail your questions to deborah@tacomafencing.com. The Board continues to meet many times a day virtually to get answers to our fencing family as quickly as possible. Thank you for your patience.

Thank you again for being such an important part of our community,

Toby Lee, MD, Diane Bartels, MD, Deborah Li, Jiyon Kim, Lisa Wonneberg, Jose Porras, Joy Kim
Metro Tacoma Fencing Club (MTFC) Board of Directors