

METRO TACOMA FENCING CLUB

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16 March 2020

Dear Metro Tacoma Fencing Club Families,

Last night Governor Jay Inslee wisely ordered the closure of all restaurants, bars, entertainment, and recreational facilities in the State of Washington until at least until 31 March 2020 due to the ongoing and worsening COVID-19 worldwide pandemic. Our club continues to be temporarily closed to all classes and private lessons. Since this virus is spread from person-to-person, we hope that you and your loved ones practice social distancing and good hand washing which are the best ways to help control this disease.

We are a small not-for-profit organization with a fiscally responsible board of directors who over the years has managed to save for a rainy-day fund which until recently we had hoped would go to a down payment towards a larger space of our own. With the recent events and our closure due to the COVID-19 virus we realize that the extra savings will now be needed to be used for this emergency in paying for our fixed costs and to help support our valuable and dedicated full time staff coaches. We can weather a two month closure but will start to feel much more concern beyond that. We know that all of our families are working through and figuring out the financial and other implications of this virus for their own households as well.

If you have regular scheduled lessons with one of our staff coaches, the board invites you to pay the lesson fee for the remainder of this month and not take the credit to your account for lessons not given or received due to our closure. This is a completely voluntary and much appreciated gesture that will help lessen the impact to our coaches. If you would like to join the Lee, Bartels, Li, Kim, Guerra, and Maeng families in doing this, please e-mail the club at info@tacomafencing.com.

We are looking at ways to continue to help our fencers. One question we get is what our fencers can practice at home. We will try to add some information on our club webpage tacomafencing.com under the [RESOURCES](#) tab that you might check out. You will find our new *Cleaning Gear* guide there. Our first homemade video is uploaded to describe a home point control drill with a ping pong ball. Next is a footwork video.

Members may check out non-electric equipment at the club at no cost on Saturday 3/21/2020 from noon to 4 PM. Loaner equipment must be returned to the club within one week of club reopening to avoid being charged for the full replacement cost. The Absolute order will also be available for pick-up at that time. And there will be a free ping pong ball to the first 40 families that day. Please line up outside the club with 6 feet of distance between family groups and enter one family at a time. Please, no lingering. Social distancing.

Please e-mail your questions to deborah@tacomafencing.com. The Board continue to meet frequently and virtually to adapt to this quickly changing situation. Thank you for your patience and continued support.

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