

METRO TACOMA FENCING CLUB

8629 South Tacoma Way
Lakewood, WA 98499
253-584-1986

Western Washington Division
www.tacomafencing.com
info@tacomafencing.com



13 December 2021

Dear Metro Tacoma Fencing Club Families and Friends,

We hope you and your family are having a festive and safe holiday season with some time to relax and recharge. The fencing season is starting to pick up quite a bit with more of our fencers competing at local and national events. So far this fencing season (starting 1 August 2021) we have had 63 fencers competing in a total of 265 events. We celebrate some of our fencers who recently earned national points (Christopher Y12 men's foil, Brian junior men's épée). And perhaps most exciting, we see a lot of new faces trying out this wonderful sport.

Metro Tacoma Fencing Club will be adding an important enhanced COVID-19 protocol starting 1 January 2022 to be more consistent with USA Fencing national requirements (starting 1 January 2022) as well as requirements implemented by every other Western Washington Division (WWD) fencing club (rules went into effect 25 October 2021). We will need to continue all our current COVID-19 protocols including face masks covering nose and mouth while inside, sanitizing, symptom screening prior to participation, temperature checks, and social distancing. In addition, entry of everyone 12 years old and over inside our facility will require *either* a completed COVID-19 vaccine series *or* show a negative PCR test within 72 hours of entry to our facility. This includes all fencers and visitors 12 years old or over for every class and open fencing session. There is a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document posted on our club website www.tacomafencing.com under *Resources* which will be updated as needed. The hope is that these enhanced protocols can help reduce the risk of COVID-19 infection or spread while participating in fencing. While it continues to be challenging in many ways with the ongoing worldwide COVID-19 pandemic, particularly with the variants that are being identified, I wanted to express my gratitude again to all our families and friends in making the extra effort to keep our community safe. In the last two months we have had four fencers report a positive test after being at our facility, and after reaching out through contact tracing have fortunately found no cases of club transmission. We hope these new requirements will make our club even safer.

I also wanted to thank all the generous supporters who helped launch our 2023 Moving and Relocation Fundraiser. Our current lease expires in July of 2023. And we are quickly outgrowing our space. Club membership has doubled since COVID-19. Our ambitious goal is to reach \$50,000 knowing that we needed \$25,000 for our last move to our current location in 2017. For Giving Tuesday we raised \$5,578. If you feel that our programs are valuable to your family and to our community, please help us reach our goal. If you have interest or expertise in real estate, please reach out to us and join our search committee. I have found that this sport, our coaches, and this wonderful fencing community has helped all our kids develop focus, perseverance, physical fitness, and good sportsmanship. Metro Tacoma Fencing Club (MTFC) is a 501(c)3 tax exempt non-profit organization.

Thank you to you and your family for being such an important part of our community. You can reach any of us at info@tacomafencing.com with any questions, comments, or concerns. We are also on Facebook with a members-only group (search *MetroTacomaFC*).

With much appreciation,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Toby Lee".

Toby Lee, MD on behalf of Diane Bartels, MD, Scott Poehlmann, MD, Ji Yon Kim, Jose Porras,
and Lisa Wonneberg
Metro Tacoma Fencing Club (MTFC) Board of Directors